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Baltimore	Par.	
Philadelphia	Par.	
New York city	Par.	
New York State	¾	per ct. dis.
New England	½	do.
New Jersey	¾	do.
Eastern Pennsylvania	¾	do.
Western Pennsylvania	1½	do.
Maryland	½	do.
Virginia	¾	do.
Western Virginia	1½	do.
Ohio	2¼	do.
Indiana	2¼	do.
Kentucky	2¼	do.
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Michigan	3	do.
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L. P. NOBLE, *Publisher.*

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WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 27, 1847.

REFORM IN ENGLAND—THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE.

That nations, like individuals, have their appointed times of infancy, maturity, decay—rising gradually to the full noon of their strength, and then declining until they set in darkness—is a commonplace maxim, but not a universal truth. The ancient world furnishes no exceptions to it,* but does not the modern? In olden time, when an empire began to decay, there seemed no recuperative power in its composition; its doom was sealed. The history of empires in the modern world reveals a different law. They may retrograde, but recover themselves; decay is not always followed by death, but sometimes is the harbinger of a better life. France reached a height of power under Louis the Fourteenth, from which she steadily declined, until the fatal reign of Louis the Sixteenth, when the monarchy went out in blood, and anarchy seemed to have destroyed the organic life of the nation. But from this chaos emerged the same People, with a power greater than even the monarchy knew—a power which, for a time, threatened to overwhelm the world. Reverses checked, but did not crush it. They but drove France back upon herself, where she began to expend wisely upon her own improvement energies which had been blindly seeking universal empire. Through all these periods—of Monarchy in its zenith and decline, of terrible Anarchy, of a formidable Republic, of an all-conquering Empire, of the Restoration, the Three Days' Revolution, and Legitimate Monarchy, as we now see it—it is the same France, rising, falling, and again rising; advancing, receding, and again advancing, demonstrating its immortality, even when apparently in the agonies of dissolution. What in her history can you find to verify the old maxim of the rise and fall of empire? Thrice has she risen and fallen—as a Monarchy, a Republic, an Empire—but her Identity has survived all vicissitudes, and her real Life was never stronger than it is now.

England, too, has exhibited similar changes in the forms of its existence. At times apparently crumbling on the brink of ruin, but again suddenly expanding as with new Life; now, despite her many retrograde steps, she wields an empire such as the Sun, in all his circuit, never looked upon before; and it is an empire not of show, but of reality; not merely of physical, but also of moral power. While her Government is felt in the uttermost parts of the earth, the People at home are felt by that Government. While it works without, they are working within, augmenting among themselves the elements of power and prosperity.

It would be interesting here to advert to the grand peculiarities which distinguish the civilization of the modern from that of the ancient world, and to the causes of the necessary decay of the one, and the steady advancement of the other; but our object now is simply to call attention to the progress of reform in England. The Movement party in that country, during this century, has evinced eminent practical wisdom. One thing at a time has been attended to. Its energies have not been wasted in the discussion of mere abstractions, or dissipated in schemes of universal reform. Now it carries through the Reform Bill. Then it achieves Religious Liberty. Next the abolition of Slavery engrosses its attention. Then the Emancipation of Commerce. Thus, abuse after abuse falls before its well-directed efforts, until, at last, the way is open for the commencement of a reform which, being accomplished, grievances now too formidable to be attacked, can then be safely and surely removed. We mean the reform which seeks the establishment of Universal Suffrage.

The organization recently effected for this purpose is styled, "*The National Alliance*, for promoting the real representation of the People in Parliament." Of its spirit and policy we cannot give a better idea than by noticing the proceedings of one of its meetings, of which a report is published in the London Nonconformist. It was held in London, and a large hall was crowded to excess by an audience of fully two thousand people. As auspicious to success, it is noticed that men were there with their families, the galleries being specially appropriated to the ladies. The eloquent George Thompson, one of the People's representatives, recently elected to Parliament, occupied the chair. Edward Miall, the well-known editor of the Nonconformist; Henry Vincent, famed for his popular eloquence; Col. Thompson, M. P., a veteran and prominent advocate of all Liberal movements, with several Independent ministers, and leading Chartists, were present. The Alliance bids fair to concentrate and direct the means and energies of friends of reform, from all classes—the Leaguers, the Anti-Slavery men, the Dissenters, and the Chartists.

The following resolutions define its objects and measures:

"That every House of Commons hitherto elected under the provisions of the Reform Bill has contained a majority of members having no claim to the confidence of the earnest friends of civil and religious liberty; and, therefore, this meeting is of opinion that the time has arrived for creating a great national movement, for the purpose of extending to the whole People their political rights.

"That the National Alliance, formed for the purpose of promoting the union of all Reformers, and having for its object the real representation of the People in Parliament, is worthy of the support of all classes, because it seeks to extend the suffrage to every man of full age—to protect his vote by ballot—to abolish property qualifications—to establish electoral districts—to provide for the just remuneration of members of Parliament—and to have Parliaments elected for a short and fixed duration.

"That this meeting pledges itself to the earnest and active support of the movement; and that, individually, they will place themselves in connection with it, and use their utmost endeavors, both pecuniary and otherwise, to promote its success."

Of the extent of the evil to be remedied, some estimate may be formed from the following statements, furnished by the London correspondent of the National Intelligencer:

"In Great Britain, a population of 26,711,050 in 1840 contained 1,066,860 electors, or about one person in every twenty-five had a vote.

"In the U. States, a population of 17,063,258 in 1840 gave 2,403,485 votes at the Presidential election, or about one in every seven had a vote.

"In France, a population of 35,000,000 contains about 200,000, or very nearly one in every one hundred and seventy-five have a vote."

Calculating the slaves, one-sixth of the population of the United States voted in 1840. At this time one-sixth of the population of Great Britain, or nearly five millions, are of voting age, but one million monopolize this right.

Mr. Brooks, in supporting the first resolution, said, that the Alliance was intended to comprehend men of every sect and class, holding one common principle, and so unite the People into one immense body, and educate them to self-reliance, to the abandonment of physical force, and the employment of that moral power which could subdue any amount of opposition.

Mr. Frazer rejoiced in being selected to propose the second resolution, because it embodied the principles of the Charter. The only argument that could be urged against the People was, their want of education. There was no word so little understood, so much perverted, as that word "education." Everything that tended to improve and elevate their common nature, to develop their mental and physical energies, went to constitute education. Every man who was not a drone, but lived by the sweat of his brow, was more or less educated. The want of education might as well be urged as an argument against the possession of property, or of any social right, as against the exercise of political power. He believed the Alliance was in earnest, and he hoped to see a union of the working and middle classes in this work of reform.

Col. Thompson, in seconding the resolution, said, there could be no peace in a community so long as it tolerated a crying injustice in its bosom. He congratulated the meeting upon the rapid dissemination of its principles. This was the great day of union between the middle and working classes. Before the power of that union every wrong must disappear.

Mr. Miall spoke in support of the third resolution. His attachment to the principles of the Alliance and the People's Charter was excited wholly by the study of Christianity. In the book which he held sacred, he learned that man, as man, was to be revered; that the circumstances in which man might be placed were held as nothing in the sight of the Supreme; that all men were essentially equal; and when he saw large classes, a majority of his fellow-countrymen, excluded from the right of citizenship, and treated in that respect as slaves, he felt bound, in the face of calumny, braving consequences, to avow his convictions.

Henry Vincent followed, in a speech full of lofty sentiment and genuine eloquence. We have room for only a few quotations:

"All changes for the better have come from the spirit of disquiet, the progress of discontent. The world has gained nothing through the spirit of conformity, but everything by the spirit of nonconformity. [Cheers.] Look back upon its history; it matters not upon what precise period you put your finger—upon man in a state of barbarism, or upon man in a highly civilized state—upon man governed justly or unjustly. The same rule constantly holds good; for God hath put into the human heart a spirit of restlessness, that ever leads that human heart to yearn for change and improvement. The world would have been fossilized long ere this—hardened into a stolid mass—without this spirit. But in spite of the strong powers possessed by Governments, powers never conferred by the people, but grown out of ignorance, created by wrong and injustice—in spite of these, the human soul has been constantly expanding, and the human mind constantly growing; and in the darkest night of despotism God has prepared some glorious Spartacus, some great-souled hero, who carved the way for his fellows out of the house of their existing bondage. [Loud cheers.] The Tories of this country, who talk so much against change, who think there was nothing like the virtue of Old Sarum and the dignity of Gratton, [laughter]—who boast so of our glorious Constitution—a Constitution so perfect, that the Duke of Wellington confessed, had he been called upon to make a Constitution, he could not have made a better. [Laughter.] I say, the gentlemen who talk thus, and train us up in the belief that all change is revolution, and that, if the People once get uppermost, everything terrible will follow—why, sirs, everything glorious in the country of which they boast is the fruit of that very progress which they deprecate. [Cheers.] England is the child of progress, of political change, of social advancement. Think you England would be the glorious land she now is, if our feudal masters possessed this night the strength they did in the reign of Henry VI? Would England be the splendid country it now is, if all its unjust feudal and ecclesiastical monopolies, and all its old sanguinary and bloody laws, which were put into operation against our Nonconforming fathers, were in force now? No; England owes her glory to the spirit of stern resistance. She traces the commencement of her glory far back in the Saxon times, when rude men struggled with ruder tyrants to wrest the public liberties from their grasp. She sees her glory revive again upon the field of Runnymede, when Catholic barons plucked the tyrant John by the beard. She sees her glory revive again in Wickliffe, the morning star of the Reformation, thundering forth his anathemas against priestly wrong. She sees it revive again in the struggles against the Stuarts, in Hampden, with his uplifted flag upon the field of Chalgrave, and with Pym, and glorious Cromwell. [Immense cheering.] She sees it in the glory thrown around the movement by the genius of Milton, Sydney, and Russell. She traces her glory, in fact, in that extensive spirit of progress which, I bless God, is beginning to pervade the world; not confined to England, but traversing the mountains of Switzerland, shaking France to her centre, penetrating even to Rome, and beaming from the very tiara of the Pope. [Great cheering.]"

The following remarks are as wise as the preceding were eloquent:

"We have not to convert the working, but the middle and upper classes to our principles; and it is no use losing temper if they don't adopt them at once. We have done with the sword forever; we repudiate violence; we rely exclusively upon moral power. No nation can fight its way into really intelligent and virtuous liberty. A nation must grow into freedom—must become too big for its rotten institutions—feel its body expanding, and its mind swelling, until, by the free force of its own expansion, it shakes every trammel from its limbs. [Cheers.] In this work of persuasion we must enlist men in whose moral character and intelligence we have confidence. We do not so much require genius to conduct our movement as virtue. Give us men who ally the private virtues to their public patriotism, and our cause is safe."

The spirit which glows in the closing appeal of Mr. Vincent is admirable:

"Liberty must be procured—for England and the world liberty must be procured, before it can be full of that enlightenment and virtue which every good man desires to see prevail. For that liberty I raise my voice; for that liberty this Alliance proposes to rally. For freedom of mind and conscience I now invoke a stern and determined spirit in this audience—a spirit that shall be too large for the Tower Hamlets to contain—a spirit that shall infect the other metropolitan boroughs—yea, a spirit that shall be infused through all England—a spirit of indomitable enthusiasm and resolve on the side of human right. [Cheers.] I see in this immense gathering—in the large mass of middle class and workingmen—in the generous co-operation of men of different sentiments, all verging to one point—above all, in that religious feeling that pervades the English people, and that is now beginning to recognise the importance of applying Christianity to all the purposes and affairs of life—I see, in all these things, the guarantee of the growth of a power that no Government can be strong enough to resist. Countrymen, let us stand in an attitude of peace, and yet work perseveringly for our good cause, lay aside all turbulence and clamor, trample the sword beneath our feet, and spike the cannon by the pen. And if there be any still mad enough to think of brute force as a medium through which nations may march to freedom, let us whisper gently in their ears, that force never yet converted man. Let us pluck from God's own armory those weapons of a moral and peaceful kind, with which we may march against the strongest bulwarks of despotism. God, in his own prophetic word, has spoken of the time when moral, religious, and intellectual power shall encompass every system of wrong, and shake that system to its foundations; and all mankind enjoy that freedom which He intended them to possess. [Mr. Vincent resumed his seat amidst loud and reiterated bursts of applause.]"

Who does not cordially wish success to a cause urged by such arguments, in such a temper?

* Unless it be China.

REPRESENTATION IN ENGLAND.

We lately observed in *Jerrold's Newspaper*, statements strikingly illustrating the evil which the National Alliance, mentioned above, aims to remedy. There are thirty-one English boroughs which neutralize the whole political influence of Scotland, as the following table shows:

	Electors.	Male adults.	Members.
Scotland	85,244	630,328	53
England (31 bor.)	9,862	41,560	53

Sixty-six English boroughs, containing 24,443 electors, and 122,500 male adults, return 105 members, equal to all the members returned by Ireland, which contains 177,448 electors, and 1,890,734 male adults. It is also shown that the thirty-one boroughs above mentioned, have equal political power with all the most populous and influential in Scotland and England together, including London and the metropolitan boroughs, as follows:

	Electors.	Male adults.	Members.
24 large cities and boroughs	203,945	916,923	53
31 small boroughs	9,862	41,560	53

Such representation is a mockery.

PUBLIC SENTIMENT, NORTH AND SOUTH.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The following is the report of the Senate committee in South Carolina, on the subject of slavery extension, lately made in the Senate of that State. The resolutions we published last week:

"*Report of the Committee on Federal Relations, on that portion of the Governor's message relative to the Wilmot Proviso, and other resolutions on the same subject.*

"The Committee on Federal Relations, to whom was referred the resolutions of Virginia, accompanying the Governor's message, on the subject of the Wilmot Proviso, and also certain resolutions of the Senate on the same subject, beg leave to report:

"That South Carolina most cordially responds to said resolutions, as embodying the true interpretation of the Constitution of the United States on the subject, and as pointing out the most wise course for this State to pursue. It cannot have been unnoticed by the most casual observer, that within the last few years the Abolition party of this country has been increasing in numbers, and growing doubly bold in their flagitious attempts to foment a spirit of insubordination among our slaves, and to destroy the value of this species of property. To consummate such purposes, that party has left no means unresorted to. Against the slave owner they have excited every bad passion, and seized upon every occasion to vilify and misrepresent him. Regardless of our laws, they have deluded and enticed away our slaves, and when detected in the theft, and convicted by the judgment of their own courts, they have trampled on the law, and put its executive officers at defiance. Availing themselves of the Press, they have prostituted its liberal licenses, and have lighted it into firebrands, which they have hurled into our midst, to inflame the minds of the deluded victims of their instruction to the business of insurrection and midnight butchery.

"The slave owner has been pictured as a monster, exceeding in atrocious practices all others in cruelty and barbarity, and, from the alleged enormity of his life, he has been denied Christian fellowship, and even his departing soul has been pursued at death, and, by a bold assumption of Divine intelligence, denied even a hope of Heaven. The press, the public assembly, the Legislatures, and the pulpit itself, have all participated in such denunciation.

"It has been in vain that the defenders of slavery have showed that the system has existed in every age of the world—that it was established in the Old, and sanctioned in the New Testament. In vain have they brought to view that the system was forced upon them by Great Britain, and that the Northern and Eastern States were among the first and most benefited traffickers in human flesh. In vain have they demonstrated that the system as now practiced has meliorated the condition of the slave, and that no plan ever suggested or attempted for his manumission has proved other than a heavier bondage—all such evidence has been disregarded, and the fanatic and the bigot have warmed into a maddened zeal, which threatens nothing short of a violation of our rights or destruction to the Union. Nor have the difficulties which thus surround the subject been of recent origin. As far back as the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, the question of slavery was one of imminent difficulty, and which produced the most angry feelings among the framers of that instrument. Fortunately, however, for the Union, though perhaps not so fortunately for ourselves, a compromise was effected, and while the existing institution of slavery was to be observed, full guarantees for its future protection were promised. Among other clauses for our protection, these were insisted upon—that to each State should be guarantied a republican form of government, [Art. iv, § 4;] that every citizen was to be protected in life, liberty, and property, [Amend. v;] and whilst Congress was to have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations respecting, territory or other property belonging to the United States, nothing contrary to the Constitution was to be so construed as to prejudice the claims of the United States or any particular State, [Art. iv, § 3.]

"With these solemn guarantees to the property and rights of the slaveholding States, it was to be hoped that no mad spirit would disinter the question of slavery, and again drag it forth to madden and distract the land. Much, however, as such an occurrence was to be deprecated, it has nevertheless presented itself, and, under the guilty profanation of liberty, parties have grown up, and, infusing their spirits into the Legislatures of several States, have induced them to declare, 'that the existence of slavery is a great calamity—an immense social and political evil; that it ought to be abolished as soon as that end can be properly and constitutionally attained; and that in view of this they will strenuously resist the annexation of any new territory to this Union, in which the institution of slavery is to be tolerated or established.'

"Such, then, is in substance the legislative resolve of at least ten of the sovereign States of our Union—most, if not all of them, from time to time, have transmitted their resolves, as notices to the Executive of our State; and heretofore these insults upon her character, and aggressions on her rights, have been repelled by a return of the resolutions to the States whence they emanated.

"Your committee will not dwell upon the progressive steps by which the Abolition party has arrived at its present position of strength, nor will they discuss whether that strength is intrinsic, or borrowed from the temporary position of other parties. It is enough to know that this party has its Representatives in the Congress of the United States, session after session, insulting us with their vile denunciations, and defaming with their falsehoods; that they have disregarded compromises we have made them, and, in two instances during the past session, have refused to observe any of the features of that compromise; and, as if gaining boldness by their outrages, they have, during the same session, trampled down our constitutional guarantees, and have, in the popular branch of Congress, declared, 'to prohibit the extension of slavery in all territory to be hereafter acquired by the United States.' Against these gross encroachments on our constitutional rights, it is matter for congratulation that South Carolina is not likely to become the only protestant. Conscious that usurpation of right grows more reckless when submitted to, and that silence under wrong becomes ignominious, the slave States have at length been aroused, and, with Virginia in the lead, are speaking out with an emphasis that will not be mistaken. Your committee, therefore, in the language of our Executive, earnestly recommend for adoption the following resolutions of the Legislature of Virginia, as a correct exposition of our rights, and as pointing out the proper principles of action, together with a resolution expressive of the opinion of this Legislature as to the course to be pursued in the event of the passage of those resolutions by Congress."

NEW YORK DEMOCRACY.

We extract the following from the address from the caucus of the Democratic members of the New York Legislature, some account of the proceedings of which we copied last week from the Washington Union:

"The retrospect we have thus taken of the history of the Democratic party and of our own action in connection with it, would be imperfect if we did not allude to a subject which has for many years engaged the attention of our citizens, and which has been recently forced upon the public consideration. We refer to the subject of Human Slavery. With this institution, or relation, as it exists in our sister States or in foreign countries, we have no connection, and for it no responsibility. So long, therefore, as it remained a matter of State legislation and concern, whilst we interfered in no manner with others, we contented ourselves with rapidly and totally abolishing this vestige of barbarity within our own borders.

"On the 29th of January, 1817, the patriot Tompkins, then filling the Executive chair of this State, addressed the Legislature as follows: 'I now take the liberty,' he said, 'of submitting to the Legislature, whether the dictates of humanity, the reputation of the State, and a just sense of gratitude to the Almighty for the many favors he has conferred on us as a nation, do not demand that the reproach of slavery be expunged from our statute book.' A Legislature largely Democratic in both branches, responded to this appeal, and with remarkable unanimity passed an act by which human slavery was, after the year 1827, abolished and forever prohibited in the State of New York. Thus was effaced forever this blot upon the free institutions of our State.

"The application of the Territory of Missouri for admission into the Union afforded another opportunity for the utterance of the sentiments of the Republicans of New York, and for the illustration of its earnestness and unanimity. On the 19th January, 1820, the following preamble and resolution passed the Assembly, and were adopted by the Legislature, in both branches of which the Democrats were in the ascendant:

"'Whereas the inhibiting the further extension of slavery in these United States, is a subject of deep concern among the people of this State: and whereas we consider slavery as an evil much to be deplored, and that every constitutional barrier should be interposed to prevent its further extension, and that the Constitution of the United States clearly gives Congress the right to require of new States not comprised within the original boundaries of these United States the prohibition of slavery as a condition of its admission into the Union; therefore,

"'*Resolved*, (if the honorable Senate concur,) That our Senators be instructed and our Representatives in Congress requested, to oppose the admission of a State into the Union, of any territory not comprised as aforesaid, without making the prohibition of slavery therein an indispensable condition of admission.'

"This resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of both Houses.

"The territory from which slavery was thus sought to be excluded was a part of Louisiana, and that institution was established and had been in some degree protected by the treaty of cession. The institution had also been recognised and tolerated by the express act of the people of the new State, in the Constitution which they had adopted. The action of Congress on the subject was adverse to the opinion of this State, thus unanimously expressed. It admitted Missouri with the obnoxious institution, but it excluded it from the remaining territory north of 36 deg. 30 min., and from the States to be formed thereout. Whilst Congress thus tolerated an existing institution, and recognised the right of a State to provide for it, it claimed and with general assent exercised the power to restrain it within its actual limits. In this prohibition it followed the precedent furnished in the ordinance of 1787, the work of Thomas Jefferson, which prohibited the introduction of slavery in the territory north and west of the Ohio, and which, indeed, going further, abolished it, after it had in part been established, and denied to the States to be created therefrom the power to restore it.

"The contemplated acquisition by our Government of territory in Mexico, and the actual occupation thereof by our armies, have again forced this subject upon the attention of Congress and of the people. In the Congress of 1846, the following condition was attached to the bill to provide for or facilitate the cession of territory from Mexico:

"'*Provided*, That, in territory thus to be acquired, there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.'

"This provision, though it failed in the Senate, was adopted in the popular branch of the National Legislature, by a vote which included all the delegates of New York and of the mass of all of the free States. In contemplation of this provision, and of the action of Congress on it in the succeeding session, your representatives in this Legislature adopted the following resolutions, by the nearly unanimous vote of both Houses:

"'*Resolved*, That, as war now exists between the United States and Mexico, it is the imperative duty of every citizen of this country to sustain its Government in all proper measures for the prosecution of the war, in such a manner as our national honor and interests demand, until it shall be terminated by an honorable peace.

"'*Resolved*, That no peace with Mexico can be regarded as honorable to the United States, which shall not secure from that Republic full indemnity for the aggressions which it has committed upon the rights of this country and of its citizens.

"'*Resolved*, That if any territory is hereafter acquired by the United States, or annexed thereto, the act by which such territory is acquired or annexed, whatever such act may be, should contain an unalterable fundamental article or provision, whereby slavery or involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, shall be forever excluded from the territory acquired or annexed.

"'*Resolved*, That the Senators in Congress from this State be instructed, and that the Representatives in Congress from this State be requested, to use their best efforts to carry into effect the views expressed in the foregoing resolutions.

"'*Resolved*, That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly be requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolutions to each of the said Senators and Representatives.'

"The instruction and request of the State Legislature, thus uttered, was obeyed and acceded to by all the representatives of New York in Congress, with but two exceptions.

"To the doctrine thus avowed by the Legislature of this State, and thus with commendable fidelity carried out by her representatives, her people still firmly adhere. After having seen the power of Congress, in the first days of the Constitution, wielded to remove slavery from soil where it had already obtained a foothold, and, at a later period, recognising it, but resisting its progress, they will not consent that it shall now become the active or passive agent, for the extension of this baneful institution over territories where it has now no existence, and throughout which it has once been abolished. In this attitude this State has been sustained by the voice of the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, New Hampshire, and Maine, expressed in their Legislatures and Conventions, and by the universal sentiment of the North. This determination of the free States, accompanied by the more stern and effective reasoning of the ballot-box, may, it is to be hoped, reach and arrest the attention, at least, of our Southern brethren, prompted as it is by no unkind feeling to them, but dictated from a sense of justice to the rights of the free laborers of the South, as well as of the North, with whose interests the co-existence of slavery is incompatible.

"It was to meet the aggressive attitude of a portion of the South and to secure a free and full utterance of the voice of New York in the crisis of a war with a foreign Power, which had been preceded by a series of gross injuries, and was brought on by the act of that Power, and which it was the manifest duty of our Government to meet with vigor, and to prosecute to a peace which shall secure the interests of our people and the honor of the American name, that, in the legislative caucus, recently held, a State Convention was called at Utica, on the 16th of February next, with power to send a delegation to the National Convention, to represent the sovereignty of the State, or, if the Democratic electors should so decide, to provide for the election of delegates by districts. The right to call a Convention thus empowered had been placed in our hands by the uniform usage of the party. In the State Convention of 1843, the mode of representation had, after considerable discussion, been decided against the district system. No power is adequate to the reversal of a decision, which was deemed to have settled the question, except the Democratic electors were expressly called to its consideration."

THE CLAY WHIGS OF NEW YORK CITY.

An immense meeting of the Clay Whigs of New York city was held in the Broadway Tabernacle, to respond to the Peace sentiments of Henry Clay. It is said to have been one of the largest and most enthusiastic meetings ever held in that city. It took up and passed substantially the resolutions of Mr. Clay; among others, the following tremendously efficacious remedy for the war:

"*Resolved*, That, assuming this ground, we, as constituents of that Congress, do call upon the Members to perform their duty, as defined in the fourth Lexington resolution, and 'to adopt the most efficacious measures to arrest the farther progress of the War, taking care to make ample provision for the honor, the safety, and the security of our armies in Mexico, *in every contingency*,' as well as to preserve our national dignity and reputation untarnished by submitting to what is wrong. And should the President 'decline or refuse' to follow their decisions, to take such farther measures as the Constitution of our country and the spirit of its institutions demand, when the power of the *many* is seized upon by *one*."

More action and less talk, gentlemen.

The following resolutions are more explicit:

"*Resolved*, That we rejoice to hear a voice from the noble State of Kentucky declare, in the language of the seventh resolution, that 'we positively and emphatically disclaim and disavow any wish or desire, on our part, to acquire any foreign territory whatever, for the purpose of propagating Slavery, or of introducing slaves from the United States into such territory,' and we, the citizens of New York, do pledge ourselves to sustain these truly American sentiments.

"*Resolved*, That while we recognise and respect the constitutional rights of the South to such domestic institutions as their fathers established, and disclaim any just power on our part to interfere with them, and while we feel no desire that additions should now or ever be made by conquest to the territory of the United States, we yet feel bound to declare that, if territory *should* be annexed, which was free before we acquired it, it must not cease to be free in our hands, but remain so forever."

Here, too, is another explicit resolution:

"*Resolved*, That among the illustrious living men who, by their whole lives, have done honor to our country, the *first* in our confidence and in our affections is HENRY CLAY, of Kentucky—a Patriot above suspicion, and a Statesman without equal; and we trust the day is at hand when the American People will vindicate their own character by emphatically manifesting their high appreciation of his exalted services and his peerless worth."

MOVEMENT IN ALABAMA.

In Alabama, the People, without distinction of party, seem to be moving for General Taylor. At a large meeting of the citizens of Montgomery and adjoining counties, on the 16th ultimo, a committee was appointed to address the People of the State, recommending a Mass Meeting of the friends of General Taylor, on the 8th January ensuing, to nominate an Electoral Ticket, &c. They say, in their address:

"It cannot longer be disguised that we are approaching a fearful crisis in our National affairs. We should be insensible to the preservation of our dearest rights, regardless of our solemn duty as citizens and as lovers of the Republic, if we longer delay, whilst the danger is so impending upon one great question, in the decision of which our most vital interests, as Southern men, and the perpetuity of the Union itself, are involved. The North, in the main, is united against us. This question is paramount to all others, and therefore, as we love the Union of the States, as friends of our Republican system, it behooves us to avert, if possible, the calamity we so much dread.

"This calamity may be averted in the result of the next Presidential election, if the South is but true to itself. If we divide amongst ourselves, while those who oppose us are united as one man, our energies will be frittered away in useless disputes, and our dearest rights under the present Constitution may be irretrievably lost. In our union will be found our strength and our safety as a people. How can we effect this union? We who have been divided heretofore must be divided no longer! We now have higher objects, and holier purposes! The South must be united in the next Presidential election, and our union must be cordial and sincere! This union cannot be effected in the support of any of our old political favorites—party feuds would present an insurmountable barrier. *The past must be forgotten for the sake of the future!* Some man who has never mingled in the strife and turmoil of partisan warfare—some man whose honesty, and talents, and patriotism, cannot be gainsaid—some man at the mention of whose name the whole nation will rally—must be selected to fill the chief place in the council of the nation.

"Where can we find such an one? Need we point you to General Zachary Taylor? Though but recently he was but little known to us, the world now knows him. * * * * We recommended him, because we honestly believe that he alone can break down the fearfully increasing spirit of faction—we recommended him, because we honestly believe that he is the only man upon whom the whole South *can* or will unite—we recommended him, because we honestly believe that he alone can afford us that unity and confidence which will make us harmonious at home and respected abroad."

They also quote the following resolutions, passed by the convention which appointed them:

"3. That a fearful crisis threatening to involve the North and South in geographical antagonism, (headed, as it is, by many of the master minds of the country, and aided by fierce faction, and boding evil for the future,) requires a republican of the old school, free from the shackles and acrimony of party—one who has a fast hold on the heart of the nation—one whose counsels and acknowledged wisdom and disinterested patriotism can unite the republican brotherhood together—whose overwhelming popularity can break down all the factions that would destroy the Constitution or dismember the Union. Such a man is 'Old Rough and Ready!' In fine, he is the man for the South, for the crisis, and for the nation.

"4. That the chair appoint a committee of ten, to prepare an address to the friends of General Taylor, and invite them to assemble in a mass meeting, on the 8th of January next, for the purpose of bringing out at a proper time an electoral Taylor ticket for this State."

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR OF OHIO.

The message of the Governor of Ohio, with a population twice as large as that of Virginia, and with great industrial interests far more various and complicate, occupies about a column and three-fourths. It presents a most satisfactory exposition of the condition of affairs. The following is a brief statement of financial matters for the year ending November 15, 1847:

"RECEIPTS.

General revenues received from taxes levied on the grand list, and incidental items during the fiscal year 1847		$1,202,528.47
Tolls and dividends received upon canals, turnpikes, and public works of the State		827,641.85
Tax upon banks, insurance and bridge companies		41,748.52
Surplus revenue, principal repaid by the counties		101,835.48
Interest upon surplus revenue paid by counties to common school fund		86,379.06
Receipts for canal lands sold, and other items		53,942.40
Total payments into the treasury applicable to the annual expenses of the State Government and institutions, repairs of public works, payment of interest on State debt, and to the sinking fund		2,314,075.78
"DISBURSEMENTS.		
Paid upon appropriations for support of State Government and State institutions, during the year 1847	$210,250.42	
Paid for support of common schools	201,319.31	
Interest upon State debt, foreign and domestic, including exchange and expenses paid	1,175,117.51	
Repairs and contingent expenses upon the public works	317,568.13	
Amount of payments for the ordinary annual expenditures of the State		1,904,255.37
Balance, being surplus applicable to the payment of the temporary and funded debt of the State		$409,820.41
In addition to the above, there has been paid into the treasury, on account of school lands and other trust funds and proceeds of loans and bonds issued, the sum of		$237,145.26
Payments have been made from these funds to the amount of		118,341.01
Leaving the balance of the receipts of the trust funds, over the disbursements		$118,804.25

"Domestic bonds to the amount of $119,883.73 have been redeemed during the year 1847, at the treasury.

"The total amount of the balances of the several funds in the treasury at the close of the fiscal year, on the 15th November, 1847, was $494,261.70."

In the following allusion to the Mexican war, there is much that must command the approbation of every honorable mind, and his recommendation in relation to the Black Laws, we hope to see carried into effect:

"I cannot take leave, without congratulating you and the country in view of the prospect, that the noble stand which Ohio took, and still so gallantly maintains, not only at home, but in both Houses of Congress, in the front rank of opposition to the Mexican war, is likely to be, ere long, sustained by the authoritative voice of the nation; that the attempt to identify opposition to the war of aggression with opposition to the late war of national defence, has so signally recoiled upon the heads of its authors; and that, I trust, we shall hear no more of the absurdity, that national honor requires from us the unrelenting and vigorous prosecution of a war commenced in violation of our Constitution and of the eternal principles of right! True honor never requires either nations or individuals to continue to do wrong because their servants and agents have either commenced or long pursued that career; on the contrary, the only honorable course for either, in such an emergency, is to dismiss their servants, 'cease to do evil, and learn to do well.' Justice and truth, humanity and charity, moderation and magnanimity, are infinitely nobler elements of honor, individual or national, than haughtiness, pride, covetousness and revenge, however displayed in brilliant and heroic deeds of courage. Let Congress, therefore, in the name of virtue, Christianity, and peace at home and abroad, declare to the civilized world, that we ask not the dismemberment of Mexico, and will have none of her territory, except by fair purchase, when the Republics are at peace. To which I beg leave to add, as the unequivocal voice of Ohio, should further territory be annexed to the Union by conquest, by purchase, or by any other mode, that she, the eldest of free-born daughters of the Ordinance of 1787, will spurn from her bosom any recreant son of hers who shall, in the hour of trial, desert or surrender her first great charter of liberty, or fail in any constitutional effort to consecrate that territory to freedom and the inalienable right of man.

"Whilst upon this kindred subject, I cannot forget that the 'Black Laws' still disgrace our statute books. All I can do, is earnestly to reiterate the recommendation for their unqualified repeal."

SALES OF SLAVES BY THE UNITED STATES.

Announcing, some months since, the sale of a mother and daughter in this city, to satisfy a claim of the United States, we remarked that some benevolent persons interposed, and became the purchasers, for the the purpose of securing freedom to both. Since then, we have addressed a circular to friends in different sections of the country, explaining the case, and soliciting aid for those who so generously volunteered in the matter. One response deserves notice, the writer, enclosing five dollars as his contribution, says:

"It is thought that you were cognisant of all the circumstances, and that you concurred in the sale referred to for the purpose of producing excitement."

An ingenuous mind will be slow to impute a want of candor to others. They who are accustomed to suspect the motives of their neighbor, betray a consciousness of something wrong in their own hearts. "To the pure all things are pure."

In the transaction referred to—the sale of the slaves—we had no part, either in the preliminaries or accompaniments. We were not consulted—had never known the parties—and knew nothing about the transaction till it was all over. A friend, Mr. Jacob Bigelow, informed us that the United States Government was about to deal in slaves. We asked, in what way? He called our attention to an advertisement in the *Union*, in which the U. S. Marshal announced the sale of a mother and a daughter to satisfy a claim of the United States. We begged him to look into the case, ascertain the facts, and we would expose them. The sale took place, he ascertained the facts; and not till then had we any idea of the nature of the transaction. In our article concerning it, we took care, while fastening the responsibility on the Government, and showing the public how they were involved by this act in the sale of slaves, to make this statement:

"Strange as it may seem, there are circumstances attending the whole transaction which reflect great credit upon certain persons engaged in it; and our readers will rejoice to learn that, by the efforts of those persons, mother and daughter were bought only to be rescued from bondage and life-long separation from each other.

"But all this does not change the essential nature of the act chargeable on the United States. Whatever may have been the conduct of individuals, the fact stands out conspicuous and humiliating, that the Government of the American Union has sold two human beings, at the capital of the nation, and that the price of blood is now in the Treasury, not of a District or a State, but of the United States? We do not know that such cases have taken place before, but there is no reason to believe that they are anomalous. The executive officers proceed clearly on the assumption that the Government of the United States may hold or sell slaves, and seem to regard it as a thing of course."

The whole of our connection with the case, was of a date subsequent to the completion of the transaction — whoever suspects us of disingenuousness or contrivance in this matter is guilty of a wrong, which only his entire ignorance in the premises can excuse.

For the National Era.

THE FREE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

RIPLEY, *November* 4, 1847.

BROTHER GOODMAN: This day, according to previous appointment, the Presbytery of Ripley, the Free Presbytery of Hillsborough, and the Free Presbytery of Mahoning, united in constituting the "Free Synod of Cincinnati."

The meeting was opened by a sermon by A. B. Bradford; after which, Rev. D. Burgess took the chair, called the meeting to order and offered the opening prayer.

Synod was constituted by the election of A. B. Bradford, Moderator, and S. A. McLain, temporary Clerk—both of the Presbytery of Mahoning.

There were 22 members present—11 ministers and 11 elders. Rev. Mr. Gordon was absent, and several churches under the care of Synod were not represented.

Committees were appointed to draft letters, proposing a correspondence with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, the Congregational Union of England and Wales, and the Synod of Canada.

The sessions of Synod continued through Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Monday. D. Gilmer was chosen treasurer, and J. R. Gibson, stated clerk.

Friday afternoon was spent in a free conversation on the state of religion in the churches under the care of Synod; in which it appeared, as a general thing, there was a good state of unity among the members of the churches, and such a promptness in the discharge of good works, as evidenced a good state of active piety.

The sessions of Synod were remarkably harmonious and interesting. Several short seasons were spent in religious exercises.

Synod united in communion on the Sabbath. It was delightful and soul-refreshing to see brethren from the two branches of the Presbyterian church uniting in communion, on the old basis that existed before the great division of 1838.

Synod addressed a pastoral letter to the churches under its care, and also an address to the public, setting forth reasons for its organization, and also bearing testimony against some of the existing sins of the day.

The members were much encouraged, in this labor of love and self-denial, by the prospect of speedy and substantial accessions to their number, and firmly believe, that at no distant day the "Free Synod of Cincinnati" will stand high among the Synods of the West, in point of numbers, talent, and moral worth.

Synod adjourned to meet at Darlington, Beaver county, Pennsylvania, the third Friday of May next, at 11 o'clock, A. M. Yours, truly,

ADELPHAS.

ADDRESS OF THE FREE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI TO THE PUBLIC.

The Presbyteries of Ripley, Hillsborough, and Mahoning, composed of ministers and elders representing congregations who had withdrawn from the two branches of "the Presbyterian church of the United States," having met by appointment at Ripley, Ohio, to constitute themselves into a Synod of the "Free Presbyterian Church of America," bearing the title of the "Free Synod of Cincinnati."

As the bond and basis of our union, we declare our firm adherence to the Confession of Faith, the larger and shorter Catechism, the Directory for the worship of God, together with the plan of government and discipline as amended and ratified by the General Assembly at their sessions in May, 1821. And whereas, in this country, the sin of slaveholding prevails to an alarming extent, perniciously influencing all the action of the church, either immediately or remotely connected with human rights, we incorporate into our form of government the following declaration, to wit:

1. God has made of one blood all nations of men—consequently, all human beings endowed with rationality have an equal right to freedom.

2. The holding of human beings as property is destructive of all the ends for which man was created and endowed with rational powers, and, consequently, one of the greatest evils that can be inflicted on human nature; highly immoral, and entirely inconsistent with Christian character and profession.

3. No person holding slaves, or advocating the rightfulness of slaveholding, can be a member of this body.

4. That no church, presbytery, or synod, tolerating slaveholding, or the advocates of slaveholding, in its communion, can be a constituent part of this body.

And that our sentiments may be better known, first on church relations:

Resolved, 1st, That we hereby express and record our devout thanksgiving to Almighty God, that in His adorable providence, after much tribulation, we are permitted to see and take part in constituting a Presbyterian church in the United States, free, in all respects, from the sin, the shame, and the dominion of American slavery; thus restoring, to some extent, our noble system of doctrine and order to its proper place in the respect and confidence of our countrymen.

2. That as a church of Jesus Christ, and in the name of the Most High God, we protest and bear our testimony against the course pursued by the Old and New School General Assemblies, whose jurisdiction we have declined, in regard to the system of slavery in the United States, as calculated to dishonor the Gospel, to bring the church of Christ into contempt, and to open the floodgates of infidelity upon the land.

3. That whatever may be the sin of schism, we are compelled to charge it upon those who, by holding religious fellowship with slavery, and justifying it from the Scriptures, have destroyed the unity of judgment and feeling upon which alone the peace and integrity of the church can rest; and have made it necessary for us, in adhering to our ordination vows, to withdraw from their communion.

4. That in withdrawing from the jurisdiction of the two branches of the Presbyterian church, while we cherish feelings of sincere regard and confidence toward multitudes of our Anti-Slavery brethren who have not seen their way clear to co-operate with us in this important movement, we are constrained nevertheless to express the fear that the influence of their pro-slavery associations will, sooner or later, cause their zeal to relax, their light to be extinguished by the surrounding darkness, and the hearts of their slaveholding brethren to be hardened.

5. That in withdrawing from the communion of slaveholders, and those who, by sanctioning the system, have made themselves worse than slaveholders, we cherish no felings and utter no

terms of denunciation against them personally; but we do desire that our withdrawal may be understood by them as the strongest mode of bearing our testimony against their principles and practice, and thus complying with the Divine precept, "Thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbor, and not suffer sin upon him."

6. That we extend the hand of friendship and co-operation to those other branches of the Presbyterian family in the United States, which, by making slavery a term of communion, are laboring and suffering with us in the same great cause of reform; and hope the Lord will increase the number of efficient testimony-bearers among them a thousand fold.

7. That we recognise our entire dependence upon the Great Head of the church for success in our efforts to build up a free Presbyterian church in the United States, and, appealing to him for the sincerity and purity of our motives, we enter upon the conflict with a determination never to relax our efforts until the foul blot of slavery shall be wiped away from the character of our holy religion, a most fearful weapon be wrested from the hands of infidelity, and the church be liberated from its disgraceful and galling bondage to the slave-power.

And that our sentiments may be better known on the subject of *war:*

Resolved, 1st, That we view all war as a great scourge to the nations engaged therein, and as evidence of God's displeasure against them; and whatever may be said as to war strictly defensive, we believe offensive war is entirely contrary to the religion of the Prince of Peace.

2. That we consider the war now waged by our Government against Mexico as clearly aggressive in its character, and avowedly originated and is prosecuted by the slave power, for the purpose of securing a portion of her territory in order to extend and perpetuate the curse of slavery and the domestic slave trade.

3. That in our view such a war is contrary to the declared principles of our Government; dangerous to our civil institutions; calculated to disturb the peace and harmony of our political Union, involve us in a deep and burdensome debt, and overwhelm us in lasting national disgrace.

4. That this Synod would bear its earnest testimony against this unhallowed strife of arms, as unnecessarily cruel and destructive of our best interests; and would urge it upon the churches in our connection to pray and labor for its speedy termination, and upon our ministers to preach against such lawless and murderous warfare upon a weak and defenceless nation.

That our sentiments may be known on the subject of secret societies—

Resolved, 1st, That we as a Synod bear our testimony against secret affiliated societies, purporting to exist for the purpose of benevolence, as unnecessary, unsafe in themselves, inimical to the best interests of the communities where they exist, and consequently sinful.

2. That we give our zealous and unanimous adherence to Temperance Societies formed on the principle of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors; but we earnestly deprecate the formation of secret affiliated associations, though ostensibly and really formed to promote that good cause, believing that such organizations will result in injury, instead of benefit, to the Temperance reformation.

ARTHUR B. BRADFORD, *Moderator.*
J. R. GIBSON, *Stated Clerk.*

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 30, 1847.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

We are requested to say, that, so disastrous have been the effects of the great freshet in the West, so extensive the failures of the mails, that the *Era will be sent for two weeks longer to our present subscribers*, as very many of them have been prevented by the causes above mentioned, from communicating with us. Two weeks' grace, however, is as much as they can reasonably ask, so that our rule in regard to *advance payments* must then be strictly enforced, without discrimination.

CONGRESS FOR THE WEEK.

After our last report, Congress sat two days last week, and adjourned over till Monday. Monday and Tuesday, owing to the death of Governor Fairfield, neither House transacted much business.

It will be seen that the quiet of the Senate has been somewhat disturbed by the presentation of a few petitions by Mr. Hale, and that Senators are about to be held to a due responsibility by the call for the yeas and nays. Judge Underwood, of Kentucky, as might have been expected from his former course in public life, voted against laying the question of reception on the table.

In the House, Mr. Clingman, of North Carolina, also honorably sustains the right of petition. Last Tuesday, while nearly a third of the members were absent, a petition concerning slavery in the District of Columbia and the slave trade between the States was presented, and laid upon the table by a vote of 76 to 70. The yeas and nays we shall publish next week.

Nothing of interest can be expected to transpire till after New Year's Day, when Mr. Calhoun's resolutions will be up for discussion, and then, it is probable, the serious work of the session will begin. Meantime, the Taylor men are mustering their forces, and it is not unlikely may be able to control Congress.

THE FRESHET IN THE WEST.

The Western papers are filled with details of the great freshet on the Ohio. A correspondent remarks, that there have been three great freshets since the first settlement of that region, at intervals of sixteen or seventeen years. The last took place in the opening of the year 1832. We recollect it well. The lower part of the city was submerged; houses and bridges were swept away, and boats navigated the deluged streets. The river reached a height six inches above that of the recent flood, but then, the city contained only about thirty thousand people; now its population is one hundred thousand. Since then, the landing has been extended and improved, numerous large warehouses and factories have been erected and many blocks of new buildings put up in the lower part of the city, so that the loss of property and distress of the people in that quarter must be vastly greater. A public meeting has been held; churches have been thrown open for the accommodation of the sufferers; and the characteristic enterprise and charity of the Cincinnatians are providing efficient measures of relief.

These terrible visitations are always accompanied by remarkable exhibitions of the glory and shame of Human Nature.

An Irish drayman, named Charley McKean, waded waist deep into the water, taking off a poor woman's furniture, while another drayman was demanding from her more money than she had in the world. Charley, when asked his charge, replied, "not a cent, madam—it is a suffering time, and I am doing only an act of common humanity." But, this was not all, says the Cincinnati Gazette—he took from his pocket all the change he had about him, and gave it to the poor woman with his, God bless you!

C. Rowe, a carman of small means, after having removed his own effects, devoted himself for three days industriously assisting a multitude of families in removing theirs, and in not a single instance would he consent to receive compensation.

At Aurora, where the distress was very great, a fellow undertook to buy up several hundred barrels of flour, for purposes of speculation, and offered the Messrs. Graff $5 a barrel. They would not touch it, but, turning to their clerk, ordered him to give a barrel of flour to every poor man who was in need of it. In this way, dozens of barrels were given away to the necessitous.

The *Cincinnati Atlas* says that, at Lawrenceburg, William E. Craft, welcomed the sufferers to his warehouse, told them there were flour and meat—"take what you need." Ferris & Eichelberger threw open their mill, and gave to the destitute more than one hundred barrels of flour, and Messrs. Barr & Febiger had a number of their hogs slaughtered, cut up, and given to all who needed.

God bless them all, say we. These Western people have hearts as big as their prairies. The acts noticed are but specimens of their abounding charity.

The river, as we learn from the Cincinnati Herald, commenced rising on the evening of Thursday, the 9th, and continued rising till 7 o'clock on Friday morning, the 17th, when it reached its greatest height. At 5 P. M. the same day it began to fall at the rate of half an inch an hour.

The *Columbus* (O.) *Statesman* of the 16th says: "We continue to receive most disastrous accounts of the high waters on the roads, severe afflictions on both persons and property. The mails are literally suspended in all directions."

POLITICAL MOVEMENTS—THE PROSPECT.

It now seems to be pretty well understood that, whatever may have been Mr. Clay's leading motive in delivering his speech on public affairs at Lexington, his political friends designed to avail themselves of the occasion to pave the way for his renomination to the Presidency. We have hitherto said nothing of a Secret Circular issued by his friends at Lexington, dated October, 1847, just before his public appearance at Lexington. It purported to be strictly confidential; was addressed to the supporters of Mr. Clay; and its object was, to correct the exaggerated reports concerning the alleged popularity of General Taylor in Kentucky, and to show that Mr. Clay was still willing to be run as a candidate, should the prospect of success be encouraging. The letter was made public through a breach of confidence, but, as it has been extensively published in the country, and now constitutes a part of the history of the day, there can be no impropriety in our directing attention to it.

The signers of the Circular are, Leslie Combs, Benjamin Gratz, H. T. Duncan, D. C. Wickliffe, B. W. Dudley, G. Robertson. As members of the Whig party, they desire to communicate to the person addressed, important and useful information, "in regard to public sentiment in Kentucky on the subject of the next Presidential election." They state that they are citizens of Lexington, (of course the immediate neighbors of Mr. Clay,) and "several of them members of the Whig Committee for the State of Kentucky, in the canvass of 1844."

They then proceed to notice some statements in regard to the Taylor meetings, held in Kentucky, so as to disparage their importance, and to show that they ought not to be received as indicating the state of public sentiment. What follows, we copy just as it is:

"We do not intend to deny great popularity to General Taylor. His brilliant military victories; a belief in his honor, probity, and patriotism, and a persuasion that he has not been fairly dealt with by the Administration of the General Government, have rendered him a favorite. And we go further, and state our belief, that if he should obtain, in a National Convention, the Whig nomination for the Presidency, he would obtain the vote of this State. In that contingency, we should ourselves vote for him—*we are his friends.*

"But in the event of that nomination being conferred on Mr. Clay, we are just as sure that he would obtain the vote of this State. The great body of the Whigs in Kentucky remain firm and unshaken in their attachment to him and to his principles, and we believe that no inconsiderable number of the other party are desirous of casting their votes for him.

"The position of this gentleman is so well known as to supersede the necessity of any particular explanation of it. After the unfortunate issue of the last Presidential election, he relinquished all expectations of ever being again a candidate for that office, or of re-entering into public life. He accordingly devoted himself to his private affairs, and to occupations incident to his retirement. He has not, we are persuaded, the remotest wish to have his name again used in any doubtful contest. If he believed that a public declaration from him, that he would never consent to the use of his name again as the candidate for President, would promote the interests of the Whig party of the country, (which he thinks are indissolubly united,) he would not hesitate to promulgate such a declaration. *But, in the absence of any conviction to that effect, he has deemed it most fitting and proper in him to remain silent and inactive, abstaining from all efforts to attract public attention to himself, and leaving the current of the popular feeling and opinion to run in its own self-made channel, undisturbed by him. He has therefore announced to the world no resolution whether he would accept* or *decline a nomination for the Presidency.* We feel perfectly sure that he would not accept it *unless it might be tendered to him under such a concurrence of weighty circumstances, (such, for example, as a decided manifestation of the wishes of a majority of the nation, and a continuation of his present excellent health,)* as that *all candid men would agree that it was a matter of duty on his part to accept, and that he ought not to decline it; and we doubt not that he will, in due time, signify his determination to remain in private life, if he should be satisfied that such a course is necessary to the success of the great cause which he has so long and so zealously espoused.*

"We have thought it expedient and right to put you in possession of the facts, views, and opinions, which we now communicate. *We have considered it best that this letter should be regarded as confidential*, because, being thoroughly convinced of the necessity of the greatest harmony among all portions of the Whig party, we desire to do nothing to expose that harmony to the least jeopardy; and although we are fully satisfied of the accuracy of all that we communicate, a public discussion of it might lead to unfriendly collisions and injurious consequences.

"We are, respectfully, your obedient servants,
"LESLIE COMBS.
BENJ. GRATZ.
H. T. DUNCAN.
D. C. WICKLIFFE.
B. W. DUDLEY.
G. ROBERTSON.

"P. S.—We should feel obliged to you for information or opinions you may feel disposed to communicate to us, or any one of us, in reference to the subject of this letter."

Just about the date of this circular, there appeared in prominent Whig papers in different sections of the Union, articles designed to attract attention to Mr. Clay. If these occurred without design, the coincidence was remarkable.

In the beginning of November, the *North American*, although nothing extraordinary had taken place in the relations of the country or the movements of parties, contained a short, but very significant editorial, inviting the "Sage of Ashland" to re-appear on the public stage, and favor the People with his counsels, which, it was sure, would exert a most wholesome influence on public sentiment. Then came the announcement that he *would speak*, and the whole country was called to listen. He made his appearance, delivered his speech, proposed his resolutions, and forthwith his special friends in all sections called public meetings to respond to his sentiments, and endorse his resolutions. True, there was nothing in them intrinsically very practical or very important, but the meetings called to consider the doctrines they taught, would furnish an occasion for testing public sentiment in regard to their author—perhaps of bringing out that "decided manifestation of the wishes of the majority of the nation," on which depended, in the estimation of the signers of the Secret Circular, his acceptance of the Presidential nomination.

Doubtless, many of the managers of this movement were sustained in it by the supposition that they were meantime contributing to the cause of peace and the best interests of the country. But, where the indications of a deliberate party design are so clear, we feel bound to point them out.

What are the results? A meeting was called at Cincinnati, to respond to the resolutions. It was not very large, and its resolutions simply affirmed opposition to the War, and to the Extension of Slavery. It afforded no test of the feelings of the city in relation to Mr. Clay.

The same remark may be made of the public demonstrations at Louisville and Pittsburg.

At Philadelphia and New York, the meetings were large, enthusiastic, and ardent in their expressions of devotion to Mr. Clay.

It is sufficient, however, to say, that from the great body of the People no response to this movement at Lexington has gone forth. No intelligent observer of public affairs will, we think, deny this.

OTHER MOVEMENTS.

While this demonstration bids fair to exhaust itself, without any important results, other movements are in progress. Some of the old Whig papers in Ohio are beginning to express their decided opinion in favor of Judge McLean. His friends are to be found among the stable, reflecting portions of the Whig party; those who care more for the interests of the country, than its offices.

In New England, he is highly respected, but Mr. Webster seems to stand foremost there in the affections of the Whig party. The Judge is too little of a partisan to suit the taste of those who manage politics in New York and Pennsylvania. Their motto should be the question raised by that mysterious personage who persecuted Job—"Doth Job serve God for naught?"

To carry Pennsylvania, it is necessary to a candidate that he should have slain his thousands, or, still better, his tens of thousands; and to triumph in other States we wot of, he must secretly cherish, if not openly avow, that to the victors belong the spoils.

THE TAYLOR PARTY.

But, the Taylor movement seems to be at present the most conspicuous. The return of the General to the United States is the signal for renewed efforts in his favor. Mr. Calhoun and his friends do not parade their predilections, but we are greatly mistaken if their influence be not used to promote his prospects. Alabama appears, without distinction of party, to have declared in his favor. We do not believe there can be a doubt as to the determination of Mississippi and Louisiana. Tennessee and Georgia, it is understood, are committed to him. Kentucky will certainly support him, if nominated. And in Virginia, so conclusive are the indications of a purpose to get up an electoral ticket for him, at all hazards, that the Whig members of the Legislature of that State, assembled in convention at Richmond on the 22d instant, passed the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That it is expedient to hold a Whig State Convention in the Capitol, at the city of Richmond, on Wednesday, the 23d day of February next, for the purpose of forming an electoral ticket for the approaching Presidential election, and of taking into consideration the propriety of expressing the preference of the Whig party of the State for some person as a fit candidate for the Presidency; and, also, of the propriety of sending delegates to a Whig National Convention, should one be hereafter assembled.

"*Resolved*, (as the opinion of the Whig members of the General Assembly of Virginia,) That Zachary Taylor will be a most acceptable candidate to the people of Virginia for the Presidency, and that he will receive from them a most zealous and efficient support."

This resolution, says the official report, was adopted with almost entire unanimity—four members, who thought the expression of opinion would come with more propriety from the Convention itself, finally yielding their concurrence.

As to the views of General Taylor himself, there can be no doubt. His motto, adopted for him by some of his friends, is, "General Taylor never surrenders." Mr. Erastus Brooks, editor of the *Pittsburg Gazette*, writing from Washington, December 18th, confirms a report before made public. He says:

"I have seen a letter from one of General Taylor's confidential friends in Louisiana, in which he says General Taylor will not decline the nominations he has received for the Presidency, neither in behalf of his friend, Henry Clay, nor anybody else. Those nominations, he says, he has accepted as from the People, and they are at liberty to vote for him or not, as they deem best."

We presume this is true, and the inference is, that a National Whig Convention may do just as it pleases; this military gentleman will keep the field in any contingency.

FACTS FOR THE REFLECTING.

Mr. Calhoun just now is in favor with the Whigs. Some of them suppose that he is opposed to the acquisition of territory, although his late conversation in the Senate with Mr. Allen, ought to convince them of their mistake. He has not changed his views in relation to the war, or the true mode (in his estimation) of terminating it, since his proposition, made last winter, to take a *defensive line*, which would embrace a large range of Mexican territory—a proposition which his language on that occasion left us at liberty to infer had been adopted after consultation or correspondence with General Taylor himself. On this important point, then, they are agreed.

But, this is not all. Both seem to have no liking for National Conventions. Both declare themselves independent of party obligations. Both are large slaveholders; both identified peculiarly with the slaveholding system; both opposed to all attempts to limit its existence. Why should not Mr. Calhoun be a supporter of the General's claims? But, why should the conservative Whigs of the North all at once conceive so high a regard for Mr. Calhoun? The attempt to hold Mexico as a conquered province would be utterly subversive of the Government and of the Union of the States. The policy of annexing its several States, with their own consent, would be repugnant to the interests of slavery. The scheme of acquiring territory by conquest, as an indemnity, and by purchase, making it the basis of a peaceful settlement, and forming civil Governments for the territories acquired, brings up at once the formidable, perplexing question, *Can slavery be constitutionally introduced therein?* All these projects Mr. Calhoun opposes, while he proposes to adopt the policy of "a defensive line." The effect of this would be, to secure the acquisition of territory, under military rule, or the laws of war, and exclude civil government; but, as the war power is in fact unlimited, slavery might be insidiously introduced into the territory within this defensive line, so that when Peace should be finally restored, Congress would find, in providing a civil government for our acquisitions, that the curse had already struck its roots into them so deeply as to set all law at defiance.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

But, what are the Democrats doing? Some, trying to forget their own divisions in discussing those of the Whigs; some, setting their wits to work to discover a device by which they may save at once their party and their own consistency; some, preparing themselves for the defence of Principle, whatever may become of Party.

The Southern Democracy is united. It will reject every candidate who is an adherent, even in thought, to the principle of the Wilmot Proviso.

The *Washington Union* and the batch of politicians it represents are urging the Buchanan compromise upon the Democrats of the free States, and, seconded by official influences, they are producing disunion among them. "*Divide and conquer*," is the policy which has always been used to subjugate the Northern Democracy. With an undivided front, they might assert their just claims in a National Convention; but the annexation of Texas broke up its unity in 1844, and defeated the nomination of Mr. Van Buren; and the use made of the Wilmot Proviso by the Administration is distracting it now: the result will be, the nomination of just such a candidate as the slaveholders desire.

People talk of Yankee cunning. The Yankees may beat the South in wooden nutmegs, but the South can at any time overreach them in politics.

The most notable device we have observed of late, is the project of selecting some gentleman as a Presidential candidate, who will do nothing at all to defeat the action of Congress in relation to slavery-extension, whatever its character. He is not to use his influence for good or evil. He is to be neither *for*, nor *against*. He is to agree to count as a cipher. He is to preserve himself in a state of perfect equilibrium and indifference, like the deity of some of the ancient sages. He is to entertain no constitutional views, harbor no conscience, concerning the extension of Slavery.

In support of this nondescript thing, it is sagaciously conjectured that the whole Democratic party may unite. Only, the Northern Wilmot-Proviso Democrat lets it be understood, with a knowing wink, that said candidate must be opposed to the extension of Slavery!

Says the *Buffalo Republican:*

"A contributor to the columns of the New York *Evening Post*, takes a position on this subject, which he supports with much ability; but we have not had time to give his reasonings sufficient reflection to enable us to subscribe to them all, or to reject any part of them emphatically. He seems to be decidedly opposed to the extension of slavery; but he thinks it would be impolitic and unnecessary to require a pledge of a candidate for the Presidency, further than that he will sanction whatever Congress shall do in this respect. He thinks the proper field of action, in opposition to the extension of slavery, is in the nomination of candidates for Representatives, and the election of those who are known to be opposed to the spread of that institution over free territory.

"We have declared our determination to support no candidate for the Presidency who is known to be in favor of such extension, or of whose opposition thereto we have not satisfactory evidence. We do not—never did—wish any candidate for that office to pledge himself to act in opposition to it in his official capacity."

We are sorry to see papers, from which we had expected better things, more firmness, more consistency, giving countenance to such a policy as this.

In view of all the facts and statements presented in this general survey, we ask the friends of Peace, Justice, Freedom, and the Union, in all parts of the country, What is your duty? For us, the Future has never appeared so dark and threatening. We are forewarned, but, we fear, not forearmed.

MASSACHUSETTS QUARTERLY REVIEW—LITERATURE AND POLITICS.

Literature in this country, like Religion, when not divorced from Politics, is too apt to be subservient to them. The People, in carrying out the grand idea of self-government, seem disposed to tolerate nothing in the political world independent of themselves. That which will not submit must be banished. The Religion that sanctions popular impulse or prejudice is welcomed; the Religion that rebukes the politician or withstands the People, is denounced as an intruder. Literature fares no better. If it enter the political theatre at all, it must be to admire and applaud. There are literary men who have passed under the yoke of Party, and employ their talents only in bringing offerings to its Idols. There are literary men who, in servile fear of all Parties, avoid all questions in controversy between them, praise indiscriminately their leaders, and bestow their attention upon those topics only which the sovereign People now and then recur to merely to amuse their leisure.

Thus is Literature among us prostituted to base or frivolous purposes—to sustaining Party in its lowest aims and most tortuous courses; or to catering for the most trivial tastes of the Populace.

What can the world expect from us. Works of Genius or Taste? There may be a few such, but they will be mere exceptions to the dead level of intellectual performances. Mind must be free before it can unfold its higher powers. It must be left at liberty to deal with all great questions that affect Humanity, according to its own will and pleasure. It is disgraceful to the country that some of its best writers, from necessity or choice, should be retailing from week to week Parisian gossip, fashionable follies, petty jests, moonshine verses, or reproducing from month to month, in dwarfed or distorted forms, the creations of trans-atlantic genius; but not more disgraceful than that others, not yet quite emasculated, should be consecrating powers which, if wisely used, might exalt the intellectual tone of the country, to the base work of veiling the enormities of Parties they should seek to regenerate, or of glorifying demagogues whom they should expose.

Literature should be free, bold, and catholic. Perfect Beauty, Absolute Right, Infallible Truth, should be the subjects of its contemplation, the standards of its judgments. Its true sphere is the Universal and Infinite, and when it stoops to the Local, it should elevate it, not sink itself. We need courageous Thinkers in our Literary world, independent of the power of any organization, who will freely inquire into all organizations; who will recognise no subject or system as tabooed; who will discuss political questions as freely as if there were no Parties, and moral ones as fearlessly as if there were no Sects; who will impartially examine all schemes of reform, without asking toleration from Conservatism, or praise from Radicalism. Nor must these thinkers waste their energies in dreams or fantasies. They must come out of the closet, lay aside mere abstractions, mingle with the crowd of jostling, hurried, excited people, and address them in words that they may read as they run. The periodical press affords the readiest access to their attention. The masses read books of amusement to while away idle hours; they read newspapers and reviews for instruction. The great want, then, is that of a free, bold, able periodical press. The MASSACHUSETTS QUARTERLY REVIEW expresses the idea with great force.

"A journal that would meet the real wants of this time must have a courage and power sufficient to solve the problems which the great groping society around us, stupid with perplexity, is devoutly exploring. Let it not show its astuteness by dodging each difficult question, and arguing diffusively every point on which men are long ago unanimous. Can it front this matter of Socialism, to which the names of Owen and Fourier have attached, and dispose of that question? Will it cope with the allied questions of Government, Non-resistance, and all that belongs under that category? Will it measure itself with the chapter of Slavery, in some sort the special enigma of the times, as it has provoked against it a kind of inspiration and enthusiasm singular in modern history? There are literary and philosophical reputations to settle. The name of Swedenbourg has in this very time acquired new honors, and the current year has witnessed the appearance, in the first English translation, of his manuscripts. There is an unsettled account in the Book of Fame, a nebula to dim eyes, but which great telescopes may yet resolve into a magnificent system. Here are standing problems of Natural Science and the merits of her great interpreters to be determined; the encyclopedical Humboldt and the intrepid generalizations collected by the author of the Vestiges of Creation. Here is the balance to be adjusted between the exact French school of Cuvier and the general collected theorists, Geoffrey, St. Hilaire, Goethe, Davy, and Agassiz. Will it venture into the thin and difficult air of that school where the secrets of structure are discussed under the topics of Mesmerism and the ten lights of demonology?

"What will easily seem to many a far higher question than any other is that which respects the embodying of the Conscience of the Period. Is the age we live in unfriendly to the highest powers; to that blending of the affections with the poetic faculty which has distinguished the Religious Ages?"

The conductors of this new Journal seem to understand their duties; and we suppose this first number of the Review affords a pretty fair specimen of the talent embarked in it and the spirit which is to control it.

The "*editor's address*," from which we have just quoted, defines the general plan of the work, and is vigorously written, although an occasional turn of the phraseology reminds us of those singular contrivances by which Carlyle seeks to make his *ideas palpable.*

The leading article is a long one on the Mexican war. So thoroughly has this subject been discussed, on the stump, by the press, in Congress, and by the President, that, in the hands of an ordinary man, it cannot but become wearisome. But the writer of the article in the Review handles it in such a way as to awaken fresh interest in it. He assails the policy of war and the war party with great power; analyzes with unsparing severity and the keenest logic the circumstances leading to the rupture between Mexico and this country; exposes the miserable subterfuges of demagogues, and bad diplomacy of imbecile negotiators; lays open the policy of both the old parties at this crisis, and treats the acts of their great men in a style which indicates that there is no fear of man before his eyes.

There are some things in it which we could wish were not there. Mr. Calhoun, it is said, was the author of annexation, and voted for the war. Mr. Calhoun was but one of the agents in effecting a work which had long been in progress, and was originated by others; and he did not vote at all on the war bill. Both political parties, it is said, favor slavery; "both love it, now with open ardor, now with longing in secret." We cannot believe anything so loathsome as this of either party. They love Party unity and Party spoils; each doubtless being impressed with the idea that its unity is essential to the welfare of the State, and its control of the offices necessary to prevent corruption. Both, too, are afraid of Slavery, and have been drilled into the policy it has dictated; but that they "*love* it!" God forbid that we should thus accuse them! Nor is it exactly true that no prominent man in the Whig Party is opposed to the extension of Slavery. The naked facts are bad enough; let us not exaggerate. Many prominent men in both the Whig and Democratic Parties are opposed to the extension of Slavery. Webster and Corwin have announced their opposition, and, although Buchanan, Cass, and Dallas, have given us no reason to believe that they are, Benton and Martin Van Buren have, as well as the most prominent politicians of the Democracy in New York and the Western States; and we believe them. The only question is, as to the strength and duration of their opposition. Will their opposition be active, persistent, decisive? Or will they content themselves with simply expressing their opposition till Slavery have achieved another victory, and then thank God that they "did not slumber over that danger?"

The title of the next paper is Power's Greek Slave, but Art in General is its theme. It is philosophical, and, bating a few over-refined, it may be, pernicious subtilties, quite instructive.

The third article treats of the Political Condition and Prospects of Greece. The writer seems familiar with the facts of his subjects, and exposes the diplomacy of the Roman, French, and English Governments, with great but justifiable severity. It throws much light on the condition and prospects of Greece, and is calculated to awaken a generous sympathy in her behalf.

The Life and Writings of the distinguished Mr. Agassiz constitute the subject of the next article. It must be the production of a vigorous and sympathetic mind—one capable of appreciating the great services rendered to Natural History by that extraordinary man.

The number closes with various brief reviews, generally marked by a discriminative mind.

We commend the work to our readers. There may be things in it not in accordance with our own views—we dare say there will be—but it is manly, vigorous, fearless, and puts forth right views concerning the sphere of Review Literature. Withal, its merely literary qualities are of a high order. It is published by Coolidge & Wiley, Boston, at $3 a year, in advance, on the first of December, March, June, and September, each number containing about 125 pages.

"FAME AND GLORY."*

The learned and eloquent author of the pamphlet lying before us, with the above title, belongs to a class, happily on the increase in our country, who venture to do homage to unpopular truths, in defiance of the social and political tyranny of opinion, which has made so many of our statesmen, orators, and divines, the mere playthings and shuttlecocks of popular impulses for evil as well as good. His first production, "The True Grandeur of Nations," written for the anniversary of American independence, was not more remarkable for its evidences of a highly cultivated taste and wide historical research than for its inculcation of a loftier morality—the demand for practical Christianity in nations as well as individuals. It burned no incense under the nostrils of an already inflated and vain people. It gratified them by no rhetorical falsehoods about "the land of the free and the home of the brave." It did not apostrophize military heroes, nor strut "red wat shod" over the plains of battle, nor call up, like another Ezekiel, from the valley of vision, the dry bones thereof. It uttered none of the precious scoundrel-cant, so much in vogue after the annexation of Texas was determined upon, about the "destiny" of the United States to enter in and possess the lands of all whose destiny it is to live next us, and to plant everywhere the "peculiar institutions" of a peculiarly Christian and chosen people, the land-stealing propensity of whose progressive republicanism is declared to be in accordance with the will and by the grace of God; and who, like the Scotch freebooter,

"Patteiung an Ave Mary,
When he rode on a border foray,"

while trampling on the rights of a sister Republic, and re-creating slavery where that Republic had abolished it, talked piously of "the designs of Providence," and the Anglo-Saxon instrumentalities thereof in "extending the area of freedom." On the contrary, he portrayed the evils of war, and proved its incompatibility with Christianity, contrasting with its ghastly triumphs the mild victories of Peace and Love. Our true mission, he taught, was not to act over in the New World the barbarous game which has desolated the old, but to offer to the nations of the earth, warring and discordant, oppressed and oppressing, the beautiful example of a free and happy people, studying the things which make for peace—Democracy and Christianity walking hand in hand, blessing and being blest.

His next public effort—an address before the Literary Society of his Alma Mater—was in the same vein. He improved the occasion of the recent death of four distinguished members of that fraternity, to delineate his beautiful ideal of the jurist, the scholar, the artist, and the philanthropist, aided by the models furnished by the lives of such men as Pickering, Story, Allston, and Channing. Here, also, he makes Greatness to consist of Goodness: War and Slavery, and all their offspring of evil, are surveyed in the light of the morality of the New Testament. It looks forward hopefully to the coming of that day when the sword shall devour no longer, when Labor shall grind no longer in the prison house, and the Peace and Freedom of a realized and acted-out Christianity shall overspread the earth, and the Golden Age predicted by the seers and poets alike of Paganism and Christianity shall become a reality.

The address now before us, with the same general object in view, is more direct and practical. We can scarcely conceive of a discourse better adapted to prepare the young American, just issuing from his collegiate retirement, for the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. He treats the desire of fame and honor as one native to the human heart, felt to a certain extent by all as a part of our common being—a motive, although by no means the most exalted, of human conduct; and the lesson he would inculcate is, that no true and permanent fame can be founded except in labors which promote the happiness of mankind. To use the language of Dr. South: "God is the Fountain of Honor; the conduit by which he conveys it to the sons of men are virtuous and generous practices." The author presents the beautiful examples of St. Pierre, Milton, Howard, and Clarkson—men whose fame rests on the firm foundation of goodness—for the study and imitation of the young candidate for that true Glory which belongs to those who live not for themselves, but for their race. "Neither present fame, nor war, nor power, nor wealth, nor knowledge, alone, shall secure an entrance to the true and noble Valhalla. There shall be gathered only those who have toiled each in his vocation for the welfare of others." "Justice and Benevolence are higher than Knowledge and Power. It is by His goodness that God is most truly known; so also is the Great Man. When Moses said to the Lord, Show me thy Glory, the Lord said, I will make all my Goodness pass before thee."

We copy the closing paragraph of the Address—the inspiring sentiment of which will find a response in all generous and hopeful hearts:

"Let us reverse the very poles of the worship of past ages. Men have thus far bowed down before stocks, stones, insects, crocodiles, golden calves—graven images, often of cunning workmanship, wrought with Phidian skill, of ivory, of ebony, of marble—but all *false gods.* Let them worship in future the true God, our Father as he is in heaven, and in the *beneficent* labors of his children on earth. Then farewell to the Syren song of a wordly ambition! Farewell to the vain desire of mere literary success or oratorical display! Farewell to the distempered longings for office! Farewell to the dismal, blood-red phantom of martial renown! Fame and Glory may then continue, as in times past, the reflection of public opinion; but of an opinion, sure and steadfast, without change or fickleness, enlightened by those two suns of Christian truth, love to God and love to Man. From the serene illumination of these duties, all the forms of selfishness shall retreat, like evil spirits at the dawn of day. Then shall the happiness of the poor and lowly, and the education of the ignorant, have uncounted friends. The cause of those who are in prison shall find fresh voices; the majesty of Peace other vindicators; the sufferings of the slave new and gushing floods of sympathy. Then, at last, shall the Brotherhood of Mankind stand confessed—ever filling the souls of all with a more generous life—ever prompting to deeds of Beneficence; conquering the Heathen prejudices of country, color, and race; guiding the judgment of the historian; animating the verse of the poet and the eloquence of the orator; ennobling human thought and conduct, and inspiring those good works by which alone we may attain to the heights of True Glory. Good Works! Such even now is the Heavenly Ladder on which angels are ascending and descending, while weary Humanity, on pillows of stone, slumbers heavily at its feet."

We know how easy it is to sneer at such anticipations of a better Future, as baseless and visionary. The shrewd but narrowed-eyed man of the world laughs at the suggestion that there can be any stronger motive than selfishness, any higher morality than that of the broker's board. The man who relies for salvation, from the consequences of an evil and selfish life, upon the verbal orthodoxy of a creed, presents the depravity and weakness of human nature as insuperable obstacles in the way of the general amelioration of the condition of a world lying in wickedness. He counts it heretical and dangerous to act upon the supposition that the same human nature, which, in his own case and that of his associates, can confront all perils, overcome all obstacles, and outstrip the whirlwind, in the pursuit of Gain—which makes the strong elements its servants, taming and subjugating the very lightnings of heaven, to work out its own purposes of self-aggrandizement—must, necessarily, and by an "ordination of Providence," become weak as water, when engaged in works of Love and Good Will, looking for the coming of a better day for humanity, with Faith in the promises of the Gospel, and relying upon Him, who, in calling man to the great task-field of Duty, has not mocked him with the mournful necessity of laboring in vain. We have been pained more than words can express, to see young, generous hearts, yearning with strong desires to consecrate themselves to the cause of their fellow-men, checked and chilled by the ridicule of worldly-wise conservatism, and the solemn rebukes of practical infidelity, in the guise of a piety which professes to love the Unseen Father, while disregarding the claims of His visible children. Visionary! Were not the good St. Pierre, and Fenelon, and Howard, and Clarkson, visionaries also?

What was John Woolman, to the wise and prudent of his day, but an amiable enthusiast? What to those of our own is such an angel of mercy as Dorothea Dix? Who will not, in view of the labors of such philanthropists, adopt the language of Jonathan Edwards: "If these things be enthusiasms, and the fruits of a distempered brain, let my brain be evermore possessed with this happy distemper!"

It must, however, be confessed that there is a cant of philanthropy too general and abstract for any practical purpose—a morbid sentimentalism which contents itself with whining over real or imaginary present evil, and predicting a better state somewhere in the Future, but really doing nothing to remove the one or hasten the coming of the other. To its view, the present condition of things is all wrong—no green hillock or twig rises over the waste deluge—the heaven above is utterly dark and starless; yet, somehow, out of this darkness, which may be felt, the light is to burst forth miraculously—wrong, sin, pain, and sorrow, are to be banished from the renovated world, and earth become a vast Epicurean garden, or Mahomedan heaven—

"The land unploughed shall yield her crop,
Pure honey from the oak shall drop,
The fountain shall run milk;
The thistle shall the lily bear,
And every bramble roses wear,
And every worm make silk."†

There are, in short, perfectionist reformers as well as religionists, who wait to see the salvation which it is the task of humanity itself to "work out," and who look down from a region of ineffable self-complacence on their dusty and toiling brethren, who are resolutely doing whatsoever their hands find to do for the removal of the evils around them.

The emblem of practical Christianity is the Samaritan stooping over the wounded Jew. No fastidious hand can lift from the dust fallen humanity, and bind up its unsightly gashes. Sentimental lamentation over evil and suffering may be indulged in until it becomes a sort of melancholy luxury, like the "weeping for Thammuz" by the apostate daughters of Jerusalem. Our faith in a better day for the race is strong; but we feel quite sure it will come, in spite of such abstract reformers, and not by reason of them. The evils which possess humanity are of a kind which go not out by their delicate appliances.

The author of the Address under consideration is not of this class. He has boldly, and at no small cost, grappled with the great social and political wrong of our country, Chattel Slavery. Looking, as we have seen, hopefully to the Future, he is one of those who can respond to the words of a true poet and true man:

"He is a coward who would borrow
A charm against the present sorrow
From the vague Future's promise of delight.
As life's alarums nearer roll,
The ancestral buckler calls,
Self-clanging, from the walls
In the high temple of the soul!"

J. G. W.

* An Address before the Literary Societies of Amherst College, by CHARLES SUMNER.
† BEN JOHNSON'S "*Golden Age Restored.*"

ANTI-SLAVERY SENTIMENT IN THE SOUTH.

The Rev. Mr. Wheeler, in a letter published in the *True Wesleyan*, says:

"Since you heard from me, I have moved into Mason county, State of Virginia, where I am kindly received by many of the people of Virginia. Here in Western Virginia, Abolitionists good and true, of the right stamp, can do a great amount of good, and the people are as much open to conviction as they are in the non-slaveholding States, and perhaps more. They generally entertain wrong views respecting the great body of the Abolitionists. These views have been formed from the mal-conduct of some raving fanatics, called by the wrong name hitherto, and the misrepresentations of our enemies."

The immigration of Anti-Slavery men into slave States, wherever freedom of opinion and speech is not interfered with, will greatly tend to the regeneration of public sentiment in them, and to the overthrow of slavery. Many sections of the South abound in natural advantages, and are so sparsely populated by slaves, that enterprising non-slaveholding emigrants could soon acquire the ascendency. We notice in the *American Artisan*, of New York, a letter from "Col. E., one of the oldest and most respectable residents of Middle Tennessee," dated Sparta, White county, describing the mountainous part of that region. Every foot of it is susceptible of high cultivation. The air is delicious and invigorating, the water pure. Under the hand of enlightened industry, it might be rendered a second Italy. The Colonel calls upon the hardy adventurers of the North to come and see for themselves. As to the great objection, which every man who earns his bread by the sweat of his brow must feel, he thus disposes of it:

"I am aware that many object to moving into slaveholding States. In this part of Tennessee, which I have described to you, there is not one settler out of fifty who owns slaves. Slaveholders, generally, go into a cotton or sugar country. I look forward for this section to be filled up almost entirely with a white population, which will be nearly the same as living in a free State. Therefore, those who are scrupulous about living amongst slaves, need have no fear of slaves being in their way on the mountain table lands."

While non-slaveholding immigrants are invited from abroad, the old settlers, wearied out with slavery, or anxious to go where slaves may be more profitable, are seeking either free homes in the West, or richer plantations in the Southwest.

The editor of the *Richmond* (*Va.*) *Southerner*, who has been travelling in the South, says in one of his letters:

"We had the painful opportunity of witnessing that self-expatriating life so common to this road. The whole way from above Lynchburg to Wytheville seemed almost blocked with emigrants from old Virginia and North Carolina, travelling to the West and South. We met on our way out and back, including four days, about fifteen hundred people. About twelve hundred were blacks. All these people had taken their last look, perhaps, at the once happy home of childhood, where rest the ashes of their ancestors, and where dwell the mouldering bones of their venerated parents."

We published, some months ago, a letter received by us from a gentleman in South Carolina, long a citizen there, and opposed to the Abolitionists, but who was anxious that Congress should exclude slavery from any new territory acquired on our Southwest, so that the numerous citizens of the South, tired of slavery, and yet accustomed to a Southern climate, might find a comfortable home. This feeling, no doubt, prevails to a considerable extent in the South, but the press there can give it no voice—it is generally in subjection to the Slave Power. The editor of the *Religious Telescope*, of Cincinnati, Ohio, was lately permitted to publish the following extract of a letter received from a gentleman in Tennessee, who has lived among slaves and slaveholders all his life, and was a slaveholder himself when he wrote the letter:

"I expect that we shall go northward, as soon as we can sell. But the Texas fever is prevailing to such an extent, that I fear we cannot sell so readily as I had hoped we might. We shall sell out, though, the very first chance we meet with, of doing so at fair rates. Could I find a country yet further south, where slavery did not exist, I should never move north. But I am tired, disgusted with slavery and its influences, and shall remain among it no longer than I can arrange to get away. If I were here entirely alone, and not a slave owner, I might possibly remain, and be contented. I wish California was annexed to the United States, and slavery excluded; great as the distance is to be travelled, I would accompany the first caravan of emigrants that left after I could get ready. It is a mild, dry, and healthful climate; a country, if reports concerning it be true, in which, when it is settled and improved, one might reside and realize enjoyment in living. I shall have to go to Iowa, though, I expect, and must get along with the climate the best way I can. I would now greatly prefer a warmer climate, all other things being equal."

And yet, the Southern Press cries out against the Wilmot Proviso, as an outrage on the rights of the South—as an attempt to exclude the citizens of the Southern States from the benefits of the new territory! Far from it. The measure is not sectional. It would operate equally upon all the States. It is demanded specially by the interests of the great body of the citizens of the slave States. Would that they would make their sentiments known more emphatically! Let them establish *free* journals, if they can find none to advocate their cause. We commend the foregoing extract to the serious attention of members of Congress. How can they, in view of the condition of things disclosed by it, forbear to adopt a measure necessary to prevent the non-slaveholders of the Union from being excluded from all new territory, by the curse of slave labor?

We close by quoting, from the *Wellsburg Weekly Gazette*, a short editorial, showing the determination which exists in *Western Virginia* to rid that part of the Old Dominion, of slavery, without the process of depopulation:

"A NEW MOVE IN VIRGINIA.—A number of prominent men in Western Virginia, headed by Rev. H. Ruffner, D. D., a Presbyterian minister, have resolved to emancipate their slaves, and make an effort to abolish slavery west of the Blue Ridge, in that State."—*Ohio Repository.*

"True; and is it not time that the move should be made? Is it not time that the people of Western Virginia should awaken to their interests? Mr. Ruffner has put the ball in motion, and, with his assistance, we hope to see it roll on and on, until there is not a voice west of the Blue Ridge that will be raised in defence of slavery and its accompanying evils."—*Wellsburg* (*Va.*) *Gazette.*

THE PETITION CONCERNING THE SLAVE TRADE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The slave trade petition noticed last week in our Congressional report, occasioned some little excitement, owing, we presume, to the manner in which the Daily Press treated it, placarding the names of the signers, manifestly with a view to subject them to some odium. It was a very innocent affair. There are two marts in Washington City, (one of them in full view of the Capitol,) where slaves are brought from the surrounding States, and whence they are shipped to the South. We have seen in our Maryland exchanges numerous advertisements by the dealers here, notifying the good people of their readiness always to purchase at the highest prices; and, last summer, we knew of several coffles averaging from fifty to one hundred slaves, shipped or marched off to the South. The petition, as we have been informed—(for we may as well state, that though we cordially sympathize with the objects of the petition, we had nothing to do in getting it up—it must be a rare case in which we would consent to petition Congress)—was directed against *this trade*, which is regarded by the great mass of the citizens here with no friendly feelings. The signers, eighteen in number, were well-known citizens, not one of them, so far as we can learn, an Abolitionist. But the idea being industriously disseminated, that the petition was designed to invoke the power of Congress to interfere with the *legal* claims of slaveholders *in the District*, three of its signers published cards in the daily papers, disclaiming any sympathy with such a petition.

Some years ago, the Corporation undertook to tax the trade alluded to so heavily as to break it up; but the parties interested tested the ordinance before the Court here, which decided that there was no power to impose any such tax. Since then the trade has been carried on without license. The city, no matter what the sentiment of the people, is perfectly helpless—having no power over the subject. In this respect it is worse off than the slave States. Maryland has long had a law, prohibiting the importation of slaves "for purposes of sale or residence." The same is true of many of the States. One branch of the South Carolina Legislature has lately passed an act, instituting a similar prohibition. In fact, every State has the right to guard itself against this evil, and a majority of them have already exercised it. But the District of Columbia has no local legislature, and its Corporation has only a few delegated powers, among which is not the power to prevent Washington from becoming a slave mart. A few citizens ask the interposition of the sole body which can act in the matter, and forthwith their names are placarded, and the petition can scarcely secure respectful treatment at the hands of Congress!

Now, there must be a serious misapprehension in this whole transaction. And we respectfully ask the attention of the Daily Press of this place, of the citizens, and of Congress, while we state a few facts, which are not generally known.

By the first section of the act of the 27th of February, 1801, Congress provided "that the laws of the State of Virginia, as they now exist, shall be and continue in force in that part of the District of Columbia which was ceded by the said State to the United States, and by them accepted," &c.; and "that the laws of the State of Maryland, as they now exist, shall be and continue in force in that part of the said District which was ceded by it," &c.

By the Maryland statute of November, 1796, it is declared "that it shall not be lawful, from and after the passing of this act, to import, or bring into this State, by land or water, any negro, mulatto, or other slave, for sale, or to reside within this State; and any person brought into this State as a slave, contrary to this act, if a slave before, shall thereupon immediately cease to be the property of the person or persons so importing or bringing such slave within this State, and shall be free."

This law was in force when the act of Congress of February 27th, 1801, re-enacting the laws of Virginia and Maryland, was passed. Virginia

had a similar law, and that also was adopted by Congress for the part of the District, ceded by her. The policy of prohibiting the importation of slaves in the District, *for the purposes of sale or residence*, is therefore already legalized. That such importation cannot be legally carried on, from Virginia, is certain. The only question is, May it not be carried on from Maryland into the present District, which was originally a part of that State? It will be observed, that the law in force here is the old Maryland law, which prohibited slave-importation into that State. Doubtless the intention of Congress, in adopting this law for the District, was, to secure for it the same exemption as Maryland itself enjoyed—but as the letter of the law remained unchanged, it might be claimed that, though it forbids importation from other States, it does not forbid it from Maryland. This construction, however, is repugnant to the *spirit* of the law, and would virtually annul it. We do not believe the Courts would so construe it.

For one, then, we should have no objection to see the petition go to the Committee on the District of Columbia, although slaveholders constitute the majority of it. Certainly, they could not have the slightest objection to making such a report as would bring out this law, distinctly, with amendments, if required, to secure more effectually its policy.

We should like the National Intelligencer, the Union, and the National Whig, to explain to the good people of the United States, why their feelings are so adverse to effectuating the legalized policy of the District of Columbia—a policy adopted from the State of Maryland, in which the law prohibiting the importation of slaves, as we have been informed by the editor of the Whig, has been enforced by additional penalties?

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

BOOKS FOR THE HOLYDAYS.

We are indebted to D. Appleton & Co., New York, for several new publications, some of them of great value, just suitable for the holydays, and for sale by W. Morrison, Pennsylvania avenue, near 4½ street, Washington.

Artist Life, or Sketches of American Painters. By Henry T. Tuckerman. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 200 Broadway. For sale by William Morrison, Pennsylvania avenue.

A series of sketches, drawn with much discrimination, of American painters who have distinguished themselves by their performances. Their characteristics are keenly analyzed, and criticism is enlivened by anecdotes and biographical notices, given with taste and brevity. It is very neatly got up.

Appleton's Railroad and Steamboat Companion. By W. Williams. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale as above.

A handsome, compact volume, which no traveller should be without. With it, all questions are needless; the stranger may be at home upon any route, in any part of the country, North, South, East, or West. Convenient maps, fitted to the page, and requiring no trouble in unfolding, are inserted in different places throughout the book, giving a satisfactory and distinct view of internal routes, and the distances, instead of being reckoned, as formerly, between the towns, giving the traveller the trouble of a tedious calculation, are carried on in regular order from the starting point. The work is a complete guide through New England and the Middle States, but more general as respects the other States.

It is illustrated by numerous maps and engravings, and is the best we have ever seen of the kind.

Reply to Dr. Milner's "End of Religious Controversy." By Dr. Samuel Gorman Jarvis. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale as above.

Dr. Milner, whatever might have been his hopes, failed to put an end to Religious Controversy, as this book, renewing a discussion which has slumbered for twenty years, demonstrates. Dr. Jarvis is a zealous, able Protestant, and writes vigorously, sometimes pungently, but not always with good taste. It furnishes much information concerning the matters in controversy between Catholics and Protestants.

Life of General Taylor. By John Frost, L. L. D. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale as above.

The subject of the book is a popular favorite; its incidents belong to the camp; its numerous engravings present battle fields and heroes, with every variety of attraction. Dr. *Frost* seems to be glowing all the while with the *fire* of military enthusiasm. His Book of the Army, Book of the Navy, &c., have made his name familiar with the fighting public. This "Life of General Taylor" is a highly ornamented book, inside and out, and, were it not that we seek "those things which make for peace," and think rather poorly of your blood-and-thunder heroes, we might say a good word for it.

Appleton's Library Manual. D. Appleton & Co., New York. For sale as above.

A useful book, containing a select catalogue of twelve thousand of the most important works in every department of knowledge, in all modern languages. The object is to present, in a collected form, indications of the most important works in every department of literature, arranged in such a manner as to admit of easy reference. Part first consists of *Subjects* alphabetically arranged; Part second comprises select Biographies, Index of Authors, &c. The prices of books, as far as can be ascertained, are also given—generally, of the time at which the books were published.

The work is very convenient. If a student wish to examine all the important works on a particular subject, it will greatly facilitate his investigation; or, if he would like to explore all the works of a favorite author, the second part of the book will be a sufficient guide.

Rough and Ready Annual. 1848. D. Appleton & Co., New York. For sale as above.

A military Souvenir, illustrated with twenty plates and portraits, and containing all sorts of recollections of the Mexican war. It will prove quite an acceptable book to those who delight in the displays of animal courage, and deem them the best evidences of Christian civilization. For ourselves, we believe the time will come, when, if the soldier find a place in the temple of Fame, it will be, to use the language of Mr. Sumner, "not *because*, but *notwithstanding*, he was a soldier."

The Rose, or Affection's Gift, for 1848. Edited by Emily Marshall. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale as above.

This is a very elegant Annual. Everything about it is in good taste. The type, paper, and arrangement, are in the best style. The steel engravings, ten in number, are highly finished, and the binding is beautiful. It contains the usual variety of poetry, sketches, tales, &c., from the pens of distinguished writers; and the fair editor, so far as we can judge, has displayed great taste in getting up this select volume.

The London Quarterly. New York: Leonard Scott & Co. September, 1847.

The leading article is a highly favorable review of Prescott's Conquest of Peru. An article on Fanny Kemble does her ladyship too much honor. As an author, she seems to have a peculiar faculty of scenting out all the disagreeables, in whatever country she may travel.

The Review closes with an elaborate discussion of Parliamentary prospects, in which the peculiar politics of the Quarterly are strongly marked. It is an instructive article.

North British Review. New York: Leonard Scott & Co. November.

This number commences the second year of the republication. It is altogether excellent. "Sketches of the History of Christian Art" is a scholarly effort. "Our Mining Population" is an article of profound interest. "The Abuses of Jury Trials" will attract the attention of every lawyer. The review of the Life and Writings of Shelley is remarkable for its liberality, as well as distinguished by its sound criticism. In a word, there is scarcely an article in the number, which does not possess more than ordinary attractions.

The Poetical Works of Fitz-Greene Halleck. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale as above.

Halleck is one of our first poets, and the only regret one feels, on looking at this fine collection of poetry, is, that he has never attempted the performance of some regular poem, with a plan expanded and various enough to have brought into full and harmonious activity all his poetic attributes. If anything can stimulate him, at this late period, to undertake higher performances, it will be the beautiful form his publishers have given him in this edition of his poetical works. In typography, paper, and general style of workmanship, the book is equal to the first class of illustrated works from the London press. It is ornamented with a most faithful portrait of the author, and six exquisite engravings, illustrative of scenes or characters in the poems. The entire appearance of the volume is such as the eye loves to repose upon; the publishers have spared no pains to do honor to this American poet.

☞ We have received through W. Adam, (bookseller, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington,) the last number of the London Quarterly and North British Review. Mr. Adam is the agent for Washington.

Our Day: *A Gift for the Times.*—Edited by J. G. Adams. Boston: B. B. Mussey & Co. This is a unique and beautiful little volume, composed of original articles, in prose and verse, from the pens of those who are directed to the reformatory movements of our day. Instead of love stories and love verses, the editor has given us the words of earnest men, whose eyes have been opened to the wrong and evil around them, and whose hands are busy in efforts to bring about a better state of things. The subjects of Peace, Freedom, and the Reform of Criminals, are briefly treated by men who have directed themselves to their investigation and discussion. One of the best things in the book is Theodore Parker's story of "The Beavers"—an admirable lesson for human workers and idlers. "Anniversary Week in Boston," by the editor, is a very graphic sketch. "The Idolatry of Party," by Edwin H. Chapin, the most popular pulpit orator of the Methodist denomination in the country, is a pointed rebuke of those who offer lip service to Freedom, and give their votes to Slavery-ruled political organizations. He would have a solemn league and covenant among all true men, that on all occasions they will abide by the good and the right. "The Southerner clings to the institution of slavery; and for that, if need be, casts aside the harness of party, and rallies around a common centre. The consistency thus manifested in a bad cause should be cherished in behalf of righteousness. Party should ever be held secondary to principle; and if it thwart and oppose principle, let it break in pieces like Dagon before the ark of God." J. G. W.

The Non-Slaveholder.—We notice in the last number of this excellent and valuable monthly publication the withdrawal of the senior editor, Abraham L. Pennock. His editorial contributions have been marked by great simplicity and purity of style, earnest without extravagance, and manifesting on all occasions the courtesy and dignity of the Christian gentleman. We have long known him as a modest and unpretending but efficient and generous patron of every cause calculated to promote the welfare and happiness of his fellow-men; and we need no assurance from him, that, in withdrawing from the position which he has held for the last two years as a public advocate of the claims of the slave, he has no intention of avoiding the duties, responsibilities, and sacrifices, of one who labors "as ever in the Great Taskmaster's eye." J. G. W.

☞ We learn that Geo. Bradburn, Esq., is to take charge of the "Pioneer," Lynn, Massachusetts, the present editor of which is to spend the winter at Washington, to tell his readers "what's done i' the Capitol." Under such management, the Pioneer cannot be a dull paper. A learned college professor once told us that he never fully comprehended the power and energy of our language, until he listened to one of Bradburn's vehement denunciations of Northern serviles in Congress, "poured out as impetuously as if his vocabulary had the whooping cough, in a voice that cut like a circular saw to the tune of the file which sharpened it." He is a strong, earnest man, such as the times demand for an editor, and we shall be glad to welcome his appearance in the new vocation to which he is called. J. G. W.

ARRIVAL OF THE HIBERNIA—IMPORTANT NEWS.

The *Hibernia* arrived at Boston last Saturday, with dates from Liverpool to the 4th inst.

The most important news is, that the cholera is advancing with steady steps; that it is now raging in Prussia; that Ireland is in a state of almost total anarchy, the land reeking with assassinations from one end to the other; that there is a revival of business in England; and that the affairs of Switzerland are in the way of peaceful settlement. The letter of our London correspondent contains all that is important, in addition to the following item.

FIFTEEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamer Hibernia arrived at Boston on Saturday morning, but, on account of the telegraph offices being closed on Christmas, no news by her reached this city until 10 o'clock yesterday morning. The following despatch was received from our correspondent at Boston, having been made up in Liverpool immediately preceding the departure of the steamer:

Liverpool, *December* 4, 1847.

Additional failures of startling magnitude occurred before the 27th of November, but since then money has been easier, and the Bank of England has reduced their rate of interest to 6 per cent. The Bank holds ten millions of specie.

Business was considered to be looking better, but the markets were generally depressed.

The difficulties in Switzerland had been adjusted in an amicable manner. Luzerne has surrendered to the Federal army. Sunderbund is dissolved, and the Jesuits will be driven out.

Ireland still remained in a most awful condition.

Italy was rapidly becoming tranquillized.

Parliament was engaged upon commercial and financial affairs of the country.

The cholera had broken out in Prussia, and was spreading.

Cotton Market.—Alabama ordinary, 3⅝*d.* to 4¼*d.* Mobile ordinary, 3⅝*d.* to 4⅝*d.* There was a slight improvement before the arrival of the Caledonia, with flattering accounts of the new crops, when prices receded a farthing.

Breadstuffs.—Canal flour, 28*s.* to 29*s.*; Richmond, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, 28*s.* to 28*s.* 6*d.*; New Orleans and Ohio, 26*s.* a 27*s.* Wheat, per bushel of 50 pounds, 6*s.* to 8*s.* 3*d.* Corn, 32*s.* a 36*s.* per barrel. Corn meal, 15*s.* to 15*s.* 6*d.* per barrel. American grain and produce, depressed.

From the Baltimore Sun.

LATER FROM VERA CRUZ AND MEXICO.

English Protests against War Taxes—The difficulty among the Generals—Capture of Mazatlan and Guaymas.

Petersburg, Va., *December*, 25, 1847.

Your overland express has just arrived, with New Orleans papers of the 19th instant.

The steamship Maria Burt arrived at New Orleans on the 18th inst., from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 5th instant.

She brings letters and papers from the capital to November 27th.

The Mexicans claim having gained an advantage over a party of Americans, who are said to have landed from one of our vessels of war at Mulege, and, after fighting all day, embarked again—at least, so the Mexican accounts say, and nothing has been received from the attacking party.

By an arrival from Queretaro at Vera Cruz on the 4th inst., a communication was received from the English Secretary of Legation, Mr. Thornton, covering a protest from Lord Palmerston, the British Minister of Foreign Affairs, protesting against the forcible levy of taxes on English residents in Mexico, for the purpose of aiding to support the war. These levies were made six months since, and paid by the English residents under protest, since which they have appealed to their Government for protection.

A number of letters have been received by the Maria Burt, containing particulars of the difficulty between General Scott, and Generals Worth, Pillow, and Lieutenant Colonel Duncan, and the subsequent arrest of the latter by General Scott, which fully substantiate the accounts previously received.

The ports of Mazatlan and Guaymas are in the possession of the American naval forces.

Mr. Ward, bearer of despatches from Gov. Mason, of California, passed through New Orleans on the 18th instant, on his way to Washington.

STILL LATER FROM MEXICO.

The Baltimore Sun contains extracts from New Orleans papers of 18th and 19th, and Mobile papers 19th and 20th, giving additional particulars relating to the army in Mexico.

Gen. Scott had proclaimed that, under instructions from Washington, the army would soon begin to raise its own subsistence in Mexico.

The causes which led to the arrest of Generals Pillow and Worth are briefly these: Letters, in violation of one of the general regulations, had been written by officers in the army. Gen. Scott caused the regulation to be published, and gave notice that he intended to enforce it, using such language as to point to several officers. Lieut. Col. Duncan came out and acknowledged himself author of one of the letters, and was placed under arrest. Gen. Pillow was arrested, not for the Leonidas letter, but for contempt. Gen. Worth was subsequently arrested; cause not stated.

The Archbishop of Mexico and Gen. Scott had visited each other.

Nothing has occurred to indicate any disposition on the part of the Mexicans to cultivate peace.

The Hon. John Fairfield, one of the Senators from Maine, died in this city last Friday night, in the fifty-first year of his age. In the morning of that day he had received his friends as usual. At noon, an operation was performed on his knee-joint. At night, he was a corpse, having died from the shock or irritation. He was buried last Tuesday, at 12 o'clock.

Mr. Samuel Colman, travelling for Harper & Brothers, has established an agency for that house at R. Farnham's, corner of 11th street and Pennsylvania avenue, where specimens of their books may be seen, and had at the lowest prices.

Generals Shields and Quitman arrived in Washington last Monday evening.

Ohio.—The Senate of Ohio was engaged on the 12th inst. in debate on a proposition to repeal all laws for the collection of debt. On the 18th, a bill was ordered to provide for a Convention to amend the Constitution of the State. Another measure has also been introduced, to prohibit magistrates or citizens of the State from aiding in the capture of fugitive slaves.

Hon. Samuel Hubbard, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, died last Friday morning, at his residence, Beacon street, Boston, in the 65th year of his age.

Timothy Pitkin, the author of "Pitkin's Statistics," recently died at the advanced age of eighty.

Major E. K. Kirby, of the U. S. army, died at Baltimore last Sunday, after a lingering illness.

TERRIBLE CALAMITY—LOSS OF SEVENTEEN LIVES.

On the night of the 15th instant, at about 10 o'clock, just as they were preparing to go to bed, 32 persons who had taken refuge from the flood in the great new brick building, at the late Fourier settlement, (the water having reached the second floor,) heard the building beginning to give way, and discovered that the *walls were falling!* Some jumped out into the water, whilst those that remained were crushed and buried in the ruins.

In about five minutes, the whole of that beautiful fabric was a shapeless mass of immersed ruins, with but fifteen of its inmates breathing the breath of life—*seventeen having found a tomb!*

Among those who perished are—the whole of Moses J. Cornell's family, himself included; a gentleman well known in this city as a lecturer, last winter, at the Melodeon. Mrs. Ransom, formerly of this city; Miss Elizabeth Ranson; Henry Ransom; Alonzo Guernsey; John Hemphill; James A. Mackison, a Scotchman, a visiter to the place; Charles R. Keenan, an Irishman; John Woodsou, a colored man, being in this city—a carpenter; John Schroeder; Charles Lee, colored; Ann Madison, colored; others, names unknown—in all, 17.

Among the survivors are—Mrs. Wattles, Shroeder's three children, Elizabeth Crossman, two black men, John Q. Wattles, a Scotchman, (name unknown,) and others.

The above terrible calamity happened at what was formerly known as the "Fourier Settlement," but which was bought by an association called Excelsior. It is situated at the mouth of Bulskin Creek, in Clermont county, 40 miles above Cincinnati, on the Ohio river.—*Cincinnati Commercial.*

Serious Affair at Yale College.—We find in the New York Herald the following despatch, dated New Haven, Dec. 24:

A serious affair occurred here last night, between two tutors and two students, resulting in the stabbing of one of the tutors with a sword cane. The stab, however, is not likely to prove fatal. The other was knocked down with a bar of iron. The case, it is feared, will prove fatal.

The names of the tutors are Emerson and Goodrich, the latter a son of Professor Goodrich, of Yale college. The names of the students are Tower, of Philadelphia, and Ewen, of Tennessee.

The students were arrested and held to bail in $4,000 each. They found bail, and were discharged.

The affair produced great excitement.

Goodrich is not expected to survive.

Married Women in Vermont.—The Vermont Legislature has passed an act providing that all real estate, and the rents, issues, and profits, which may have belonged to a woman before marriage, or which she may inherit during marriage, shall be exempt from attachment or levy "for the sole debts of her husband; and that no transfer of either, made by the husband, shall be valid, unless she shall sign a deed." Married women are also authorized to devise such property by will.

SUPREME COURT.

December 21.—No. 8. Benjamin G. Sims vs. Thomas Hundley. In error to the Circuit Court of the United States for Mississippi. Mr. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of this Court, affirming the judgment of the said Circuit Court in this cause, with costs and damages at the rate of six per cent. per annum.

No. 9. William M. Gwin et al. vs. C. T. & A. Barton. In error to the Circuit Court of the United States for Mississippi. Mr. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of this Court, reversing the judgment of the said Circuit Court in this cause with costs, and remanding the same.

No. 26. Bank of the United States vs. Henry K. Moss et al. In error to the Circuit Court of the United States for Mississippi. Mr. Justice Woodbury delivered the opinion of this Court, reversing the judgment of the said Circuit Court in this cause with costs, and remanding the same.

No. 7. George Smith, plaintiff in error, vs. W. Turner. The argument in this cause was continued by Mr. Willis Hall for the defendant in error.

December 22.—No. 13. Lewis A. Collier vs. Josiah Stanborough. In error to the Supreme Court of Louisiana. Mr. Justice Catron delivered the opinion of this Court, affirming the judgment of said Supreme Court in this cause, with costs.

No. 7. George Smith, plaintiff in error, vs. W. Turner, Health Commissioner, &c. The argument of this cause was concluded by Mr. Van Buren for the defendant in error.

December 23.—Orlando Kellogg, Esq., of New York, was admitted an attorney and counsellor of this Court.

No. 7. George Smith, plaintiff in error, vs. W. Turner, Health Commissioner, &c. The argument of this cause was concluded by Mr. Webster for the plaintiff in error.

December 24.—David Rumsey, jun., Esq., of New York, and William T. Haskell, Esq., of Tennessee, were admitted attorneys and counsellors of this Court.

No. 130. John McKeon and others vs. Matthew Clyne and others. This appeal from the Circuit Court of the United States for Middle Tennessee, was dismissed, by consent of parties, upon motion filed.

Adjourned till Monday, 11 o'clock, A. M.

THIRTIETH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

Wednesday, December 22.

Senate.—Mr. Hale presented the petition of the Yearly Meeting of Anti-Slavery Friends, of Indiana, praying for the adoption of measures for the immediate termination of the war with Mexico, and of slavery. He remarked that he supposed the petition, in praying for the exercise of all the powers of the Government, so far as they extend, in relation to this subject, embraced the subject of slavery within the District of Columbia. He was aware of the usual disposition of such matters in the Senate, but, as it did not accord with his convictions of duty, he would, if the question of reception were raised, call for the yeas and nays.

The Vice President being about to take the question in the usual way,

Mr. Hale inquired, Was the motion to lay the petition on the table?

The reply was, "The question is to be put as a matter of course."

Mr. Hale was not aware of any such rule, and, as the motion to lay on the table is not debatable, he would like to say a single word on the main question.

Mr. Berrien hoped the usage of the Senate would be maintained. When a petition of this nature was presented, the usage was to raise the question of reception by a motion to lay the petition on the table. He raised that question, and moved to lay the motion on the table.

Mr. Hale demanded the yeas and nays.

The question was then taken on the motion to lay on the table the motion to receive the petition.

And the yeas and nays were—

Yeas—Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Badger, Bell, Berrien, Bradbury, Breese, Bright, Butler, Calhoun, Cass, Davis of Mississippi, Dickinson, Dix, Downs, Fairfield, Felch, Foote, Hunter, Johnson of Maryland, Johnson of Louisiana, Mangum, Mason, Niles, Rusk, Sevier, Spruance, Sturgeon, Turney, Westcott, Yulee—33.

Nays—Messrs. Baldwin, Clarke, Corwin, Greene, Hale, Miller, Phelps, Underwood, Upham—9.

So the motion to receive the petition was laid upon the table.

Mr. Hale presented the memorial of David G. Burr and sixty-nine citizens of Pennsylvania, praying for such an alteration of the Constitution and laws as shall abolish slavery throughout the Union.

Informed by the Presiding Officer, in reply to a question, that the motion to receive the petition was debatable, Mr. Hale addressed the Senate briefly:

It is with no desire to produce angry feelings, or excited discussion, but it is in discharge of my duty, under the deep and earnest convictions of my understanding, that I attempt to discharge that duty. What is the refusal of the Senate to receive these petitions? It is saying that there are some subjects on which the people shall not approach this tribunal.

In this day, speculation is adventurous. We venture to inquire into all the secrets of the material and the spiritual world. The researches of geological science have penetrated the bowels of the earth, and have there found the materials by which it is essayed to prove that

"He who made the world, and its age reveal'd
To Moses, was mistaken."

Nay, inquiry goes with adventurous flight to the very throne of Eternity, and undertakes to scan the laws by which He who sits thereon governs His own actions and the world He has created. And, sir, if speculation is thus adventurous, have we, in the United States of America, an institution which exalts itself above God, defying examination or inquiry, or petition even? Most emphatically, sir, do I conceive that, at the present day, the people of the United States have a peculiar right to come and ask of this body a respectful hearing of their petitions, and a respectful hearing on this very subject. Sir, it is no mere abstraction. It is an element of political power in the formation of our Constitution; it is an element on which the Constitution of the other House is regulated; and it is an element in the political discussion and action of the present day, which is involving the nation in a foreign and aggressive war, at an expense of forty or fifty millions of dollars annually. And, if the people of the United States are to be thus taxed for a war, growing immediately and directly out of an institution of this character, are they to be told that they shall not come and respectfully present their petitions upon this subject?

I have thus discharged my duty to those who sent me here, without any expectation of influencing the action of this body, without any desire to excite angry feeling or discussion. I ask that the petition may be received.

Mr. Berrien. The practice which has been adopted by the Senate has been the result of calm and deliberate consideration. It has protected us from those exciting discussions, which, in another branch of the National Legislature have too often occurred. I do not apprehend that anything which has fallen from the honorable Senator from New Hampshire who presents this petition, is calculated to change the well-settled conviction of the Senate on this subject. I therefore, sir, the question of reception being before the Senate, move to lay that question on the table.

The motion to receive the petition was then laid upon the table.

Mr. Cass, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to raise for a limited time an additional military force; which was read, and passed to a second reading.

After the transaction of unimportant business, the Senate adjourned.

House.—Mr. Ligon, of Maryland, moved to correct the Journal. He had voted *yea* on the motion to lay the petition in relation to the slave trade in the District of Columbia upon the table, but his vote was not recorded.

The Clerk then announced the vote—yeas 98, nays 97.

The Speaker. The 12th Rule of the House provides that—

"In other cases, (i. e. than of election by the House,) he (the Speaker) shall not vote, unless the House be equally divided, or unless his vote, if given to the minority, would make the division equal; and in case of such equal division, the question shall be lost."

The vote of the Speaker would, therefore, make the division equal, and the motion to lay on the table would be lost. The Chair votes in the negative.

So the petition was not laid upon the table.

The States were called for petitions.

When Ohio was called, Mr. Giddings moved to consider the petition on the slave trade presented by him yesterday, but the motion was disagreed to.

Notices of bills were given, reports from committees made.

Mr. Lincoln offered a series of resolutions, in relation to the difficulties that led to the Mexican war.

They were laid over under the rule.

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and proceeded to the consideration of the bill making an appropriation to supply in part a deficiency in appropriations for subsistence in kind of the army and volunteers during the year ending June 30, 1848.

Mr. Vinton explained that the bill appropriated one million of dollars to meet two sets of drafts, each to the amount of five hundred thousand dollars—one set known to be on the way from Mexico, the other supposed to be. The actual deficiency was about four millions of dollars; but these drafts required immediate attention.

The Committee rose, reported the bill, and it was passed.

The House again resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and Mr. Vinton introduced a series of resolutions, to refer the several parts of the President's Message to appropriate committees. They contemplated, in addition to the Standing Committees, three Select Committees—one on the recommendation of the President in relation to provision for the families of those who have lost their lives in service in Mexico; another, on so much of the Message as proposes encouragement to the friends of peace in Mexico to establish a peace Government; the third, on the part of the Message which relates to the policy of conducting the war.

Mr. Clingman offered an amendment, for the purpose of making a speech, which occupied an hour in the delivery. The subject was slavery, its relations to the Constitution, to the Union, to new territory, to the rights and interests of the people of the whole Union. It was ingenious, eloquent, sophistical, and good tempered. It will be noticed hereafter.

After he had closed his speech, he withdrew his amendment for the present.

Mr. Giddings inquired whether the recommendation of the President in relation to the Amistad case was included in the resolution of reference to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Vinton replied in the affirmative.

The Committee rose and reported progress, and the resolutions were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Brodhead, by general consent, sent to the Clerk's table a series of resolutions, which he said he intended to move in relation to the President's Message.

Thursday, December 23.

Senate.—A petition was presented from the Colonization Society, praying for a regulation of the number of passengers to be allowed in vessels to Liberia.

Mr. R. Johnson submitted a series of resolutions, which lie over, calling upon the President for information in relation to the whole amount of the forces in Mexico, the amount employed since the war, the amount of loss, &c.

The House bill making appropriations to supply, in part, the deficiencies for this fiscal year, was read the first time and committed.

Mr. Cass presented the petition of widows and orphans of officers who had fallen in the war with Mexico. Referred to the Committee on Pensions.

Mr. Crittenden introduced a bill, on leave, appropriating twenty-five thousand dollars for the purchase of manuscript papers by the late James Madison.

It was postponed till Monday, and will be the special order for that day.

A message being received from the House, announcing the death of the Hon. Thomas L. Hamer, member of that body, Mr. Allen addressed the Senate, giving a biographical sketch of the deceased.

The Senate then adjourned over till Monday.

House.—The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Territory of Wisconsin, transmitting copies of the laws of said Territory.

Mr. Morris announced the death of Gen. Hamer, the customary resolutions were adopted, and the House adjourned till Monday.

Monday, December 27.

Senate.—Mr. Bradbury announced the death of Senator Fairfield, and made some appropriate remarks.

Mr. Niles followed him in a speech characterized by much feeling, and closed by moving the usual resolutions.

The Senate adjourned.

House.—Some discussion arose upon a resolution offered by G. W. Jones, to authorize the employment of additional clerks in the Pension Office.

It was interrupted by a message from the Senate, announcing the decease of Mr. Fairfield, when Mr. Hammons arose, and, after a few remarks, moved the usual resolutions, and

The House adjourned.

Tuesday, December 28.

Senate.—The Senate met, resolved to attend the funeral of the Hon. John Fairfield, and adjourned.

House.—Several resolutions were offered in the House. A petition from Indiana, praying for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and of the inter-State slave trade, was presented by Caleb Smith, who moved its reference to the Committee on the Judiciary. A member from a slave State moved that it be laid upon the table; upon this motion the yeas and nays were called by Mr. Root, and ordered. The vote stood—yeas 76, nays 70. So the petition was laid on the table.

The House resolved to attend the funeral of Mr. Fairfield, and then adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE ERA.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

Gibson Square, London, *December* 11, 1847.

The present is a very distressing season in London, owing to the great prevalence of the influenza and unusual amount of mortality in which it results. It is remembered also that the former visit of the Cholera was preceded by the same epidemic, and this fact naturally increases the depression and fearfulness of the sufferers and their friends. Our medical men are in unusual demand, and you can hardly get a civil word from a druggist or apothecary, unless the man be essentially and unfailingly good natured. Our places of religious concourse have not, for a long time, been so thinly attended as on last Sunday; and business, in some cases, has been in danger of interruption, in consequence of the illness of the persons who had to conduct it. Tuesday was "Magazine day," and you know the hard work that has to be done in "the row," on such a day; but the difficulty is said to have greatly increased by the absence of a very large number of assistants. The report is that there were no less than 140 clerks absent from the post office, last week, and that the other Government offices have been inconvenienced in a similar manner. Several hundred of the children in the Blue Coat and Paul's schools are on the sick list. In round numbers, the general average of mortality in London is one thousand a week, but the number last week reached 1,677—i. e. about 60 per cent above the average. The probability is, that should we be visited by the awful scourge which is gradually approaching our shores, the extent of mortality from that source will not be greater than that which is prevalent just now.

In connection with this subject, I may refer to the great activity which marks the proceedings of our Sanitary Commissioners, who, though they have been so recently appointed, will give in a considerable portion of their report to the House of Commons to-night. I have learned that that report is of such a character as to command the approval of the public, and do great honor to the intelligence and comprehensive judgment of the gentlemen who present it. Mr. Chadwick, one of the commissioners, a man of indefatigable energy, has been, among other duties, employed in traversing the sewers of London, in *propria persona*, mounted on a pony, by whose assistance he has travelled many miles in his subterranean pilgrimage. Several old bodies, who have either resisted improvement, or by their slow procedure lagged behind the demand of the age, are doomed to annihilation, and will be likely to get some intimations of their doom about the time when this letter will be on its passage along the Irish Channel.

I need not occupy the space allotted to me by particularizing the various subjects which are now engaging the attention of the new Parliament, and of which you receive the full reports through the ordinary channels. Honorable members do not like at this season, allotted by many of them to rural sports, to be spirited away from the very serious and important business of hunting down the game which occasions such serious losses to their tenantry, and which, but for the premature summons of Her Majesty's minister, they were determined "to put down," with as much good will as Sir Peter Laurie himself has displayed in "putting down" the various abominations that have fired his indignant patriotism. It appears, however, that the topics which have been or are to be introduced—commercial distress, Bank regulations, West India affairs, Irish distress and Irish crime, Jewish disabilities and their removal, with many other matters—will give our senators enough to do between this and the Christmas holydays. You will perceive that Mr. George Thompson made his *debut* in a manner highly honorable to himself and his constituents, in connection with a subject which no other person understands as well as himself—the unjust treatment of the deposed Rajah of Satarra. Mr. Thompson startled the House by the assurance that "he was prepared to prove that every document produced to condemn the Rajah was a forgery and a fabrication; that every witness against him was a perjured man; that he would tell the House how much was given for what those witnesses did or said, by whom they were hired, who instigated the hirers, who put the secret springs in motion, and would bring home to every man, European or native, the charge he brought against all concerned in that iniquitous proceeding in India." I understand the evidence on this subject is remarkably complete, including the forged seals by which the enemies of the Rajah effected their object.

Speaking of Rajahs, we have still in London that most remarkable of all Rajahs, our countryman (lately Mr., but now) Dr. Brooke, who, though an Englishman, is the Rajah of Sarawak. I had the pleasure of seeing him at the late meeting, in the Hanover rooms, for the promotion of the Borneo Church Mission, which, consisting of two clergymen of the English established church, is to go to Sarawak, (a district of Borneo,) under the protection of Dr. Brooke. This gentleman, who is between forty and fifty years of age, is rather tall in person, of good physiognomy, with a gentlemanly bearing, and with an air of great but not offensive self-respect and courage. I understand that he still suffers from a wound received in the Burmese war, and has a perforation from a musket ball in one of his sides. He is a real Church-and-State man, and seems to have received these principles as his natural inheritance, being the lineal descendant of Sir H. Verney, that Lord Mayor of London who displayed so much zeal and liberality in ministering to the ruined fortunes of Charles I. Dr. Brooke is evidently a man of thorough devotedness to the improvement of the Borneons, and Dyaks of Borneo, and a person who is disposed to make any sacrifice in obeying the dictates of his own conscience. I think there is more of worldly prudence in his proposed method of going to work in the mission, than most Christians who engage heartily in the missionary work would approve. The missionaries (one of whom, Mr. McDougal, was Demonstrator of Anatomy in King's College) are to be very cautious and very prudent, and not to offend prejudice; and there was a great deal less of the evangelizing spirit in the speeches at the meeting than I wished to find. Also, I regret that the good Bishop of Winchester did not appear from his speech to have made any advance in studying the *peaceful genius* of Christianity, since last he presented a stand of colors to a regiment, with a eulogy on fighting and blood shedding, very unbecoming an ambassador of the Prince of Peace. On the occasion of the Borneon meeting, the Bishop said, "He hailed with infinite satisfaction what he might consider a new order of things—when the colonist goes, not *merely with a sword in his hand*, not merely with a plough-share, not merely to contribute to the advance of the arts, and to increase the comforts of life, but when, with higher knowledge, with skill, with enterprise, he presents, *at the same time*, the Book of Truth," &c.

You will see how much has been done by our friend, Elihu Burritt, and the Peace Society, and what formidable ignorance has to be overcome, not only in generals and admirals, but in those who are men of peace by profession, and who speak of benefitting the heathen by bullets as well as by Bibles—by the sword of steel, as well as by the sword of the Spirit. However, let me not be the censor of Dr. Brooke or the mission, for I cannot withhold my respect from any who are devoting their lives to well-doing, though not exactly in the way and manner I should most approve.

This matter, however, has diverted me from one of interest to your readers, respecting which I have something to say.

The conviction is gathering strength everywhere, that the African coast squadron is a complete failure and ought to be discontinued. Lord Stanley has pronounced against it, as productive of more evils than the old slave trade itself, and you know the *Times* is laboring very hard to write it down—probably because it plainly foresees it must come down, and wishes, when the deed is done, to be able to say, "*Quorum magna pars fui*." Meanwhile, we have *to-day*, in London, the following news from the scene of action: "We learn (says the *Herald* of this morning) by a letter from the Coast, dated September 10, 1847, that the Ferret, 10 gun sloop, Commander Sprigg, captured a fast-sailing Brazilian schooner, *with 260 slaves*, off Maysu bar, West Coast of Africa, after a spirited chase, sailing and sweeping, of four hours, the prize maintaining her position out of range of the Ferret's fire, until, the wind falling lighter, she was enabled to lower a fast-pulling boat, which, after a desperate tug at the oars, succeeded in bringing the slaver to, with musketry. Nearly in the same latitude, a week before, she captured another brigantine, making, in all, five vessels taken by her within the last two months and a half." The *Times* this morning gives an account of "a sanguinary affray on board a slaver," in a private letter, dated Sierra Leone, October 6, 1847: "On the 22d of July last, the Waterwitch, with the Rapid in company, captured the Brazilian brigantine Romeo Primero, which was subsequently given in charge to Lieutenant W. G. Mansfield, R. N., and four seamen, to be conveyed to St. Helena, for adjudication. Owing to adverse winds, and the unmanageable qualities of the prize, the officer in command found it necessary to bear up for this place. On the 11th of August, about midday, two of the crew being engaged aloft, and the others in their bunks, where the arms were stowed, the Lieutenant being at the moment pulling a rope which had been recently spliced, was murderously assailed from behind by one of the prisoners, (who were four in number, and, during the day time, allowed the liberty of the vessel,) with an axe used for chopping fire wood. At the same moment, the other prisoners furiously attacked the sailors in the bunks, who, from the unexpected nature of the assault, were driven from their post, wounded and unarmed." The result of the conflict that ensued, was the death of two of our sailors and nearly the death of the Lieutenant; but one of the Brazilians jumped overboard, the rest were captured, and the vessel brought to Sierra Leone, where she was condemned as a slaver; but the prisoners were discharged, as "the alleged crime has been committed in an attempt to recapture their own vessel, then under the Brazilian flag, and not amenable to British jurisdiction—the sentence of a Court of Admiralty not having been then pronounced."

This armed interposition ceasing, one of the wishes expressed by some of the West India planters will be realized, but the advantage they have proposed for themselves will not be secured by this measure, as there is no disposition in Downing street to move the squadron over to your side, for the purpose which I mentioned in a former letter, of handing over the plunder to our honest and simple friends who are *now* so zealous in opposing slavery. Their position is and will for a long time remain pretty much as described in my last.

You will be glad to observe that the inter-cantonal war of Switzerland is nearly brought to a close, that the Federal Cantons are submitting, and that the conflict has been conducted with less bloodshed than we had reason to dread. There is, however, very much to regret in connection with the whole affair, and a very painful illustration is just presented of the manner in which people delude themselves and betray their inconsistency, when denouncing tyranny and when fighting for the rights of conscience. The Chronicle to-day contains a decree just published by the Canton de Vaud, of which I give you an extract:

"Considering that religious meetings out of the pale of religious worship guaranteed by the Constitution or authorized by law—namely, meetings of the church called 'Independent'—continue to be the occasion of troubles and disorders," and "considering half a dozen other things contained in these great reasons of State, the decree determines, first, that 'all religious meetings without the pale of the national church, and not authorized by the law, are from this day and until further orders, prohibited in the canton. Second, that in case of disobedience or resistance to the prohibition of article 1, the meetings therein mentioned shall be dissolved, and the persons who shall have assisted the authorities shall be brought before the courts of law, to be *punished* in conformity with the penal code. Third. And the said pastors and ministers, or others who shall have officiated at these meetings, shall be sent back to their respective parishes, if not already settled there. Fourth. If amongst the persons mentioned in article 3, officiating at the public meetings, there shall be any *foreigners not belonging to the canton*, they shall be immediately expelled the canton."

I repeat, that it is a really curious fact, that persons who have issued all this intolerance, were foremost in denouncing the Ultra-Montanists and the Jesuits, on account of the religious intolerance of their opinions. Of course, the sympathy felt with such strangely inconsistent people on the occasion of their triumph will be very limited among the real friends of truth and liberty in any part of the world.

Allow me to direct your attention to a review in the Athenæum of "The Prose Writers of America, by R. W. Griswold." The author of the book considers that your number of original writers would be greatly increased if they were protected by an international copyright; and the author of the review does not allow you to escape him without a very heavy castigation, quite in keeping with that given by your own countryman. So there is no national ill-will in the way, and it may be that the day is not very distant when you will admit the justice of these criticisms, and act on your convictions. I must now lay down my pen, lest, in pleading for book makers, your readers should think I am pleading for myself. I have not that dignity, but am very happy to be, dear sir, your London correspondent, O.

BALTIMORE CORRESPONDENCE.

An old-fashioned Christmas—Influence of the Holydays on Business—Increase of Drunkenness, and the Cause of it—Counteracting Doings of the Teetotallers—John A. Jones's New Establishment—Enterprize of our Colored Population—Great Movement among the Mechanics towards the formation of a "Mechanics' Institute"—The Course of the Sun with respect to the Abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia—Meeting of the Legislature of Maryland.

Baltimore, *December* 27, 1847.

To the Editor of the National Era:

We have had a real old-fashioned Christmas in this city—snow having fallen to a depth sufficient to invite the sleighs, with their merry bells, from their long inactivity. It was a merry Christmas throughout—alas! *too* "merry" for many. It is admitted, on all sides, that there have not been seen so many drunken people in our streets during any one day, for many years. And, lamentable to relate, a large proportion thereof were minors—boys from eighteen to twenty—some so young as twelve years! The aspect is certainly discouraging to the friends of Temperance; and yet there is room for consolation in the inference of a special and temporary cause for this state of society. It is unquestionably traceable to the war-spirit, which ever renders the minds of the people, especially the young, excitable and unsettled; but with the war, it is to be hoped, the evil will subside. In the mean time, the Temperance men have not been idle, but have endeavored to counteract the vile agencies of the groggeries. I speak for that section of the city in which I myself reside. The Marion Total Abstinence Society kept an open hall from five o'clock in the morning until ten at night, with but short intermissions. The time, except from three to five in the afternoon, was chiefly devoted to speeches by reformed men, to hear whose pathetic "experience" would have been sufficient to convince the most skeptical of the high usefulness of these Temperance associations. In the afternoon, the Junior Marions met to partake of a Christmas entertainment given to them by a number of the Seniors, at the suggestion of that whole-souled veteran, George Brown. The young teetotallers gave, in turn, a number of speeches, dialogues, songs, &c., which afforded evident gratification to their friends. It was an encouraging and cheering sight, that! Only let us succeed in confirming the rising generation in habits of sobriety, and glorious will be the result in the future.

The approach of the holydays gave great activity to many branches of our retail trade. The booksellers appeared to be unusually busy, as also the confectioners and the fancy dealers. A number of old establishments were completely renovated, and several new ones opened. Among the latter is one which has particularly interested me, and a brief notice of it will, I have no doubt, equally interest your readers. I refer to the establishment of John A. Jones, in East Baltimore street, near High. Jones being one of those colored men, of a numerous and deserving class in our city, who take the only philosophical road to the respect of others—*respect for themselves*—has drawn around him many warm customers and fast friends; and, by success in business as a barber and hair-dresser, he has opened a general perfumery store, on his first floor, where every variety of toilet articles may be obtained, and on the second floor a shaving saloon, which, for convenience and neatness, is certainly a curiosity in its way. Only think of sitting upon a splendid cut-velvet chair while being shaved, or lounging on a spring-seat sofa, while waiting your "turn," and in a saloon elegantly papered and carpeted, and brilliantly lighted and furnished with every convenience—all for the old price of 6¼ cents! This is certainly a "cheap luxury!" And remember, too, ye who profess to discover so much stupidity and want of spirit in the African, that this is the enterprise of a *colored man*, who has, like hundreds of others whom I might mention, extorted praise from even the despisers of his down-trodden race. Truly, our free colored population are, in view of our oppressive Black Laws, doing wonders; and they are gloriously vindicating the claims of Freedom in the very midst of the adverse influences of Slavery!

The mechanics of Baltimore appear to be at length awaking to their true interests. Several weeks ago, a preliminary meeting was held at Washington Hall, and, after an encouraging address by John H. B. Latrobe, Esq., a series of resolutions were proposed and passed, after considerable discussion as to the proper basis of operations. A committee was thereby provided, to which was intrusted the work of the preparing a constitution for the association resolved upon. That committee, pursuant to instructions, reported to an adjourned meeting, which was held on Wednesday last. Their report appears to have given general satisfaction in all respects but one. It was expected that the Association would be called simply "The Mechanics' Institute;" but the committee offered the title of "Maryland Association for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts;" and although there was apparent unanimity, I think it likely that an effort will be made to change the name at the next meeting, which has been appointed for the second Wednesday in January. The constitution making provision for those not mechanics becoming members, quite a number of such persons, friendly to the movement, handed in their names. The number enrolled was about sighty, although the evening was very cold. A committee, composed of one from each ward of our city, was charged with the duty of visiting the Mechanics in their workshops, for the purpose of insuring general co-operation. Their efforts will be aided by a large number of circulars, which were ordered to be prepared for immediate distribution. The results will no doubt be favorable; and thus will have been founded an institution which has been a decided want in Baltimore, and whose agencies cannot fail to do immense good. Among these agencies will be a library and reading-room, public lectures, and annual fairs, such as are so successfully held in Philadelphia, New York, and Boston. The last named instrumentality is unquestionably the most important of them all; and, as an ardent friend of the movement, I would say, Let the first one take place next spring, with such preparation as there may be for it. The public will make due allowance for the shortness of the notification to those interested, and there need be no fear of failure. It will give *tangibility* to the proceedings of the new institution, and a demonstration of its practical utility, which will place it beyond gainsay or doubt. In concluding this notice, I cannot refrain from expressing the hope that our Mechanics and Manufacturers will enter into this measure with unanimity and energy! It is capable of being made a truly great movement, and one whose results will be highly beneficial in a wide circle—developing the resources and skill of our workmon, as nothing else can be expected to do. Success, therefore, fullest and speediest success, to this noble movement!

While the movement of a portion of your citizens, by petition for the abolition of the curse and stigma of the slave trade from our nation's capital, is calculated to cheer the heart of every lover of truth and justice, the war organ in this city, the "*Sun*," is doing everything it can, through its Washington correspondents and its editors, to dampen the spirit of Freedom thus manifested. This is deeply to be regretted; because the circulation of this paper in your city is quite sufficient to give it more or less influence. But I hope better counsels will prevail, to the ultimate triumph of Truth and Right! Of course the attitude of the publishers of the *Sun* is not at all surprising, they being all *Northern* men!

Our Legislature assembles at Annapolis today. The session will no doubt be an animated, if not an exciting one. J. E. S.

MARRIAGE.

Married in this city, on the 23d instant, by Rev. Levi R. Reese, Rev. Samuel Keener Cox, of the Methodist Protestant Church, Charleston, S. C., to Miss Augusta M. Billing, of Washington, D. C.

OFFICE FOR PATENTS.—P. H. Watson, Attorney and Solicitor of Patents, Washington, D. C., would inform Inventors and others, that he receives models, prepares specifications and drawings of new inventions, and solicits letters patent for the same, both in this country and in Europe; he also makes researches, furnishes information, and transacts all other business relating to his profession; for which, his charges are moderate.

Persons sending a model, or a sketch made with a pen or pencil, of any new invention, with a short description of the same in a letter, addressed to him, can be informed whether it be *patentable*, and how a patent may be obtained without the expense and inconvenience of a journey to Washington. Those who wish to send models can do so with entire safety, by boxing them up and forwarding them by any of the Expresses which run between this city and almost every part of the country.

Being a practical mechanic, he can readily understand the parts and judge of the utility of an invention, from a rough drawing and description.

All models and confidential communications kept with the most scrupulous care and secrecy.

Those who may visit this city, to make personal examinations of the models of patented inventions, records, &c., preparatory to applying for letters patent for their own inventions, would find it to their advantage to call upon him immediately upon their arrival, as he can furnish them with such information as will greatly facilitate the transaction of their business, and materially aid them in securing their rights.

Persons are frequently subjected to long and tedious delay and accumulated expenses, in obtaining patents, in consequence of having their papers and drawings imperfectly or improperly prepared; and when obtained, after so much trouble and cost, the patent often fails to protect the invention, from the same causes which produced the delay. All these difficulties may be avoided by the employment of a competent and faithful agent residing at the seat of Government, where he has daily access to the models and specifications of patented inventions, and other sources of information that do not exist elsewhere, which enables him to draw up specifications that will amply secure the just claims of the inventor, and at the same time avoid an interference with old inventions. By this means the rejection of an application is prevented, and a strong and valid patent insured.

For evidence of his competency and integrity, he would respectfully refer to all persons for whom he has transacted business.

Office on F street, between Seventh and Eighth streets, opposite the United States Patent Office, Washington, D. C. N. B. Letters must be post paid. Dec. 30.—4t

MRS. R. M. OGDEN will reopen the school recently in charge of Miss A. M. Billing, on Monday, 3d January, at Mrs. Billing's residence, on Ninth street. The English branches generally will be taught. Dec. 30.—3t

JUST PUBLISHED—"A Discourse delivered at the Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., on Thanksgiving Day, November 25th, 1847: By Henry Ward Beecher"—a handsome covered pamphlet of 28 pages octavo, which should have a place in the library of every Anti-Slavery man. Price 12 1-2 cents single, $1 per dozen. For sale at the Anti-Slavery Depository, 22 Spruce street, New York, by
Dec. 30.—3t. WILLIAM HARNED.

HANDSOME PREMIUM.—To any one who will send us five dollars in advance, to pay for five subscriptions to the "Rough and Ready," we will send the paper gratis for one year, and likewise present a copy of Appleton's handsome "Rough and Ready Annual for 1848."

Terms of the "Rough and Ready" for one year.

This paper will be sent to any address in the United States for $1, paid in advance.

Twelve copies will be sent in one bundle for $10, paid in advance.

Twenty-five copies will be sent in one bundle for $20, paid in advance.

Fifty copies will be sent in one bundle to one address for $35, paid in advance.

One hundred copies will be sent in one bundle to one address for $60, paid in advance.

Advertising.

A limited number of advertisements will be inserted, on the usual terms of the New York daily papers.

Circulation.

This paper commences with a sale and subscription of ten thousand copies. We expect to double this number in one month.

Agents.

The friends of General Taylor everywhere are requested to act as agents and send in subscribers.

AGENTS WANTED.

Local and Travelling Agents to obtain subscribers for the "Rough and Ready," in every part of the United States, are wanted. Apply to Wilkinson & Co., 105 Nassau street, New York, either by letter or in person. A handsome commission will be allowed. All persons favorable to the election of General Taylor will please act as Agents. Dec. 30.—1t

THE NATIONAL ERA.

SKETCHES AND ESSAYS.

For the National Era.
PORTRAITS FOR THE PEOPLE.

BY JOHN SMITH THE YOUNGER.

NEW SERIES.
No. 1.

THE "SUCCESSFUL" STATESMAN.

Sicinius.—How now, my masters, have you chose this man?
First Citizen.—He has our voices, sir.
Brutus.—We pray the gods he may deserve your loves.
CORIOLANUS.

CHAPTER I.

Years ago, it matters not how many, there stood, not far from the unpretending mansion of the Chief Magistrate of this country, a private dwelling-house, which always possessed in my eyes a strange and mysterious interest. It was a solitary building, situated in the centre of one of those immense squares into which the grand conception of the projector of the Federal City had divided that portion of the barren District of Columbia; and in its quaint, old-fashioned style of architecture, corresponded with that which gives such a venerable air to the quiet streets of the old cathedral towns of England. The lofty gables, high slanting roof, tall stone chimneys, small narrow windows, doorways of dimensions so inhospitable that it seemed as if they had been expressly designed for the exclusion of strangers, and thick walls of brick, some of which were glazed and disposed in diagonal lines, were all in striking contrast to the flimsy, unsubstantial, gaudily-painted wooden edifices which were scattered around the neighborhood.

The exterior of the building of which we speak exhibited evident marks of neglect and decay. Here and there a slate had fallen from the roof, and the stones of which the chimneys were composed seemed loose and ready to tumble to the ground. The wood-work of the windows had long since been divested of the paint, and, left unprotected against the assaults of the frost and rain of winter and searching sun of summer, was fast mouldering away; whilst the dilapidated panes of many of them gave tokens of the unerring aim with which mischief-loving urchins had directed their missiles against the neglected mansion, enjoying no immunity even in that obscurity, like some great men, who seek in vain a privacy into which the shafts of envious contemporaries may not enter.

A high wall surrounded what had once been a garden, in the rear of the dwelling; but the flowers and shrubbery that had once bloomed and budded there, had long since faded away, and the place was now all overgrown with rank and noxious weeds. Near the centre of this space, were still to be discovered the remains of an arbor, beneath whose shade, in times gone by, lovers might have breathed their vows in the holy calm of a summer's eve; but the foliage and beauty of that retreat, as well as the grace and joyousness which had resorted thither, had perished with the singing birds of that time, and the scarred and blackened remains of a blasted tree now scowled upon the spot, like some ruined spendthrift, at last awakened from his dream of sin, surveying in mute despair the wreck of his broken fortunes.

The interior of the building presented the same antique, neglected aspect as its exterior. In the upper rooms, the rain which had penetrated the roof had streamed down the walls and rotted the floor in many places; whilst the faded tapestry hung in shreds about the windows, and fluttered in the blast which entered the broken panes, like the wings of birds of evil omen hovering near the chamber of the dying or the dead. The principal apartments were wainscoted with oak, and, with their lofty ceilings, and heavy, elaborate cornices, and deep recesses in the windows, had certainly an air of respectability superior to the so-called elegance of our modern domestic architecture. In the parlor, there was a curious chimney-place, ornamented with caryatides, basso-relievos, and scrolls, representing, in different compartments and figures, Venus, Bacchus, Plenty, and the story of Diana and Actæon.

Altogether, then, there was something in the very appearance of this solitary house which arrested the eye of the thoughtful passer-by, apart existing from the associations connected with it, in the minds of those to whom the history of its former inmates had been made known. It had been, it was said, the scene of some strange events; and various stories had once been current with regard to a dark tragedy, which, it was alleged, had been enacted within its walls. There were still those who hinted, with many mysterious gestures, that if the stones in the building could but speak, they might tell a sad story of foul intrigue and cruel wrong to which helpless innocence had fallen a victim. But, whether true or fabulous, these traditionary tales were not the source of the interest with which I was accustomed to regard that apparently forsaken dwelling. It was, at the time of which it is my purpose now to speak, the abode of two individuals, whose strangely varied fortunes and distinguished character inspired feelings of the deepest sympathy. Sustaining to each other the tender relation of parent and child—the only survivors of a long-continued storm of adversity, in which friends and kindred had successively disappeared—exhibiting, amid all privations and reverses, the loftiest heroism, was it to be wondered at that William Marshall and his lovely daughter commanded the sincerest regards of all those, in their now limited circle of acquaintance, who could discern the beauty of moral excellence?

Then, as now, it was rare to find in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation a patriot above all price; rarer, still, in that bloated and mottled thing called Washington refined society, to meet with a woman who knew the world, but, escaping all contact with its miry ways, was as pure and unsullied as the dove which brought back from our sin-defiled earth naught but the token of peace and hope.

To that solitary, weather-beaten house, slowly yielding with proud defiance, as it were, to the assaults of time, we shall often, gentle reader, direct our steps, and it is there that our story opens.

It was a wintry night. The rain occasionally fell in torrents, whilst the fierce northeast wind blew violently upon the solitary house, rattling rudely at the broken windows and dying away with low moanings in the deserted chambers, where it sounded like the stifled agonies of some victim yielding at last to ruthless cruelty. A feeble light streamed from the windows of the principal apartment in the dwelling, serving only to render still more oppressive the surrounding gloom.

Within, in the room from which the light proceeded, two men were engaged in earnest conversation. The single lamp upon the table, and the few glimmering embers on the hearth, which diffused no warmth beyond the ample chimney-place, shed but a dim and fitful light upon the countenances of the men, both of whom seemed agitated by more than ordinary emotion. One of these personages was seated in an antique chair, close to the table on which one hand was placed, while the other grasped the arm of the chair in that nervous manner by which men sometimes unconsciously reveal the tumultuous workings of the soul, even when they would have them most studiously concealed. The features of this man, who seemed to be about fifty years of age, were remarkably striking. A broad but by no means lofty forehead, aquiline nose, thin straight lips, lower jaw square and slightly protruding, piercing, cold, gray eyes, and a thick mass of hair, which looked like threads of steel, made up the portraiture. It was a face by no means void of intellectual expression, and was, indeed, full of character and of interest, but still it had in it something that, one hardly knew how, was chilling and repulsive. The motions of the eye were abrupt and angular, stealthy, cat-like, and, about the lips, which closed together like a vice, there was almost continually hovering a contemptuous, sneering, icy sort of smile.

Standing erect, with his arms folded on his breast, appeared one strangely contrasting with the individual just described. He, too, had passed that which is called the meridian of life, but his was one of those faces which never become old. The light of immortal faith shone in his clear, soft, full eyes, tempering the sternness of a majestic brow, and giving added beauty to the almost feminine delicacy of the mouth and chin. It was a face which, in its tenderness of expression, recalled the gracious aspect of the beloved disciple, so marvellously portrayed by one of the greatest masters; whilst the well-marked intellectual lineaments gave assurance that this was indeed one to be ranked amongst those monarchs of thought, who wage contention with the assaults of time, and, of the past, are all that cannot pass away.

"These are but the scruples of an honorable mind, Mr. Marshall—scruples for which I have the highest possible respect," said the gentleman who was seated in the chair, "but which certainly ought not to be allowed to interfere with the adoption of this line of policy. Besides, the popular opinion is clearly in my favor."

"Alas! how deceptive is that thing called popular opinion!" Mr. Marshall exclaimed, soliloquizing, rather than replying to him who had addressed him. "Men occupying high official places in the State are not likely to open their eyes to the fact that the masses whom they govern are ever accustomed to offer, instinctively, senseless homage to those whom they have chosen for their rulers. The truth is too humiliating."

"Yes, the public press is speaking out," continued the other, affecting not to have heard what had been said; "great meetings, you know, have been held—the sentiment of the country cannot be mistaken."

"Meetings!" again exclaimed Mr. Marshall; "pot-house gatherings of a few custom-house officials, you dignify with the name of spontaneous assemblages of intelligent and respectable citizens; whilst as to the expressions of opinion on the part of the press, to which you point as affording evidence of the rectitude of your cause, do we not know how they have been manufactured? Were not those very articles which have been so ostentatiously paraded before the President, as irrefragable testimony to the wisdom and fidelity of his advisers, all written here, and transmitted to the journals from whose venal columns they have been so diligently extracted? But my opposition is based on far higher grounds than the mere popularity or unpopularity of the measure."

"I know the controlling influence of your amiable enthusiasm, my excellent friend," said the other, with a hardly perceptible sneer; "but is not this squeamishness—for such, pardon me, I must characterize it—calculated to give an air of indecision to the conduct of those who direct great political movements, thereby diminishing the patriotic regard and confidence which the people should be taught to repose in their chosen leaders?"

"Surely you forget," said the gentleman who still remained standing opposite the fire-place, as he turned his eyes upon the other more in sorrow than contempt—"surely you forget that you are not now addressing your old constituents from the 'stump.' Of all the evils which threaten this Republic, none is more menacing at this moment than the thoughtless and insensate confidence reposed by the people in our politicians. This foolish habit at once saps their morals and endangers their political condition. No people have ever yet preserved their freedom, when they have ceased to take continual precautions against the statesmen whom they employ."

"We cannot, then, reckon on your aid?" said the other, rising and preparing to take his leave. "At all events, give the measure the chance of a fair trial."

"However hopeless the effort," was the reply, "I cannot fail to discharge my duty."

"Oh! you may think differently before the hour for the struggle comes," remarked the other; "does your daughter still remain with you? I hope she finds Washington agreeable?"

The faint trace of some suddenly awakened emotion passed over the features of Mr. Marshall as he replied that his daughter was still in Washington, but that she mingled very little in society.

"It is now ten," said the visiter, looking at his watch, "and I have yet to see ——, and ——, and ——," naming prominent members of the House of Representatives; "there comes my carriage, I believe, at last—good night, Marshall, let me know to-morrow what you think of our offer."

Here the visiter took his leave, and Mr. Marshall, stepping slowly towards the window, drew aside the curtain, and looked out upon the night. The wind still blew in fitful gusts, but the rain had ceased, and the moon, which had just risen, was slowly progressing in the troubled sky. In silence, the patriot gazed upon the majestic orb, as it struggled to emerge from the gloomy caverns of the storm, until at last, encountering the vast mass of cloud which seemed to fill the heavens, it totally disappeared, like some proud spirit contending with adversity, and at last yielding to some misfortune heavier than all before. [TO BE CONTINUED.]

For the National Era.
THE TEMPTATION.

BY MRS. EMMA D. E. SOUTHWORTH.

THE HOMESTEAD—THE FAMILY.

In one of the lower counties of Maryland, and in one of the first settled neighborhoods, surrounded by forest-crowned hills, and embosomed in trees, stood the mansion of the Brotherton family. It was a queer, old-fashioned house, with many gable ends, and a very steep roof, and windows of diamond-shaped panes set in lead sashes. These sashes, with the bricks of which the house was built, had been imported from "the old country."

It was the pride of the Brotherton family that they had come over with Lord Baltimore; but whether as friend or footman to his lordship, tradition saith not. I can go no further back than Hubert Brotherton, who flourished about a hundred years ago. He was a notorious fox hunter, and a celebrated *bon-vivant* in general; gave great hunts, great dinners, and great balls, and discovered a great talent for the manufacturing of wings wherewith his acres might fly away. His wings "worked extremely well," as inventors and patentees say, *so* well that Hubert Brotherton, who at twenty-one could stand upon the highest point in his native county, and, looking around, call all the land in sight his own, died at forty, a poor man. It is a good illustration of the vicissitudes of life, the fact that the descendants of Hubert Brotherton, who in 1747 owned nearly a quarter part of the whole State of Maryland, in 1848 do not possess a foot of land in any country; and that the children of James Howlet, a domestic of the Brotherton family, have risen to the highest places in the Army, the Navy, and the Senate; but then the former sunk through idleness, sensuality, and extravagance; the latter rose by energy, industry, and sobriety.

Brotherton Hall had been some years in chancery at the time our story commences. The sole representatives of the Brotherton family were, now, Mrs. Judith Brotherton and her granddaughter Sybil. That dear old lady was a character! Heaven bless her! I fear I shall caricature the portrait in trying to portray her excellent, but somewhat complex nature. Just as when I was a little girl, and would have some beautiful ideal face haunting my imagination, and, taking a pencil to draw it, would produce some hideous monstrosity, and throw away pencil and sketch in disgust.

Mrs. Brotherton had been very handsome in her youth, and was still a fine-looking old lady. She had a tall, stately figure, with singularly small feet and hands. Her high forehead and small Roman nose were relieved from hauteur by the tender expression of her deep-blue eyes, and the beautiful contour of her mouth. Now, don't sneer, young ladies and gentlemen; I have seen both old men and old women with very beautiful and attractive faces, albeit somewhat gray and wrinkled, and, when I was a school girl, I was very near falling in love with an old gentleman of sixty, for his beautiful smile and musical voice, and the fervent soul breathing through both.

But to my story. Mrs. Brotherton, to complete her portrait, generally wore a black satin dress, with a fine white muslin handkerchief folded over her bosom, and a plain cap of lace on her head. Mrs. Brotherton's character was very remarkable for three qualities—high family pride, warm benevolence of heart, and great romance of mind. Her benevolence always kept her pride in check, so that it never became arrogant, but was only manifested in her great solicitude in keeping her children from forming acquaintances or connections with the *nouveaux riches* of the neighborhood. Her benevolence had made great inroads upon her small fortune, and, for her thirdly-mentioned distinguishing trait, her romance of disposition, so far swept her flights of fancy, that, at the age of sixty, she would look upon her beautiful Sybil, and wish she could send her "home," as she fondly termed Old England, where she felt sure her lovely child would captivate some baron, earl, or duke. There was one rare feature in her mind more charming than even her benevolence. It was the simple, child-like trustfulness of disposition, that led her to reverse the rule of the worldling, and to believe every man and woman to be perfectly good, until she had experimentally found them to be otherwise.

Sybil Brotherton was a slight, fair girl, with a broad white forehead, large pensive blue eyes, and a sweet smile; a child of gentle and graceful movements, of low sweet tones, and of loving and pious heart. Sybil, too, was fanciful—she could not have been otherwise—and so, gently as she treated her partners at the village dancing-school, she thought them all sadly unlike the courtly Sir Charles Grandison and the stately Lord Mortimer; and she set down this world of reality to be a marvellously "flat, stale, and unprofitable" place to live in, and life itself, without a handsome and rich lover, to be a very dull story founded upon fact.

THE MESSENGER—THE NOVEL READERS.

It was evening, the ground was covered with snow, and the last rays of the setting sun lit up into blazing splendor the icicles pendant from the pine trees that crowned the hills surrounding Brotherton Hall. In a quaint old wainscoted parlor, before a blazing hickory fire, sat Mrs. Brotherton and Sybil. The old lady was employed in knotting a valance, the young one in tambouring a muslin apron. Before them stood a little, round, spider-legged tea-table, covered with a damask cloth, and set out with a service of grotesque old China.

"It is growing dusky, my dear child; ring for Broom to bring in the lights," said Mrs. Brotherton, as she rolled up her valance, and put it in her basket.

Sybil complied by putting away her own work and ringing a little silver hand-bell that stood upon the table. There were no bell wires running through the house, like nerves through a human body, in those days, reader.

The door opened, and, in answer to the summons, an old gray-haired domestic appeared, with a candle in each hand. "Making a reverence" as he entered, he sat the lights upon the table, saying, as he did so—

"Madam, a man from Col. John Henry Hines is waiting without. He brings a message for you."

"Bring him in, Broom."

"Yes, madam," and, with a second obeisance, the old man left the room.

There was this peculiarity about Mrs. Brotherton and her household, that, from a limited intercourse with the world, and a familiar acquaintance with stately old dramas and novels of the last century, the old lady had acquired a somewhat stiff and courtly manner of speaking and acting, except when thrown off her guard by strong feeling. This stately manner was particularly admired by her two old servants, Katy and Broom, who copied it upon all possible occasions.

"Sarvint, madam—sarvint, miss," bowed the smart footman of Col. Hines, as he entered the presence of the ladies.

"I understand you bear a message from Col. Hines," said Mrs. Brotherton.

"Yes, madam; Col. John Henry sends his 'spects, and says, with your permission, he will do himself the honor of calling, with his sister, in his carriage, to take Miss Brotherton to the ball to-morrow evening."

"Convey my grateful acknowledgments to Col. Hines, and inform him that I shall be pleased to consign Miss Brotherton to his guardianship for the evening."

Overawed by the dignity and bewildered by the eloquence of the old lady, the man bowed and left the room, followed by Broom.

"Broom!" said he, "what the old 'oman mean by that? She going to let the gal go?"

"Mr. Trimble!" said Broom, drawing himself up stiffly, "in de first place, my name is Mr. Broomley, and not Broom; my lady is Madam Brotherton, and no old woman; and my young lady is Miss Brotherton, of Brotherton Hall, and no gal."

"Well, then, but what am I to tell the Colonel? That she is going to let the gal—I mean the young lady—go?"

"Bress your stupidity, Mrs. Brotherton is pleased to 'sign Miss Brotherton to his garden for the evening."

"'Fore de lord, I don't know what that is; but I shall tell Col. Hines that she is going to let the gal go."

"Look here, you man in livery, you green and yellow poll parrot, if you call Miss Brotherton a gal again, I'll cane you; so be off with the message, now," said old Broom, flourishing his black-thorn stick.

The man went his way, and old Broom went into the kitchen to carry in tea. Having set supper upon the table, and seen the ladies seated, he took his stand behind the chair of Mrs. Brotherton.

"There, you may leave the room now, Broom. If we should need anything, Miss Brotherton will ring."

The old man went out.

"Now, my dear Sybil," said the old lady, "but for the kind attention of Col. Hines, I should not permit you to attend this ball, for I do not wish the face of my granddaughter to be seen too often at these village balls."

"Indeed, dear grandmother, if Col. Hines is to attend me there, I would rather not go."

"And why, my dear? What objection have you to Col. Hines? Is he not very polite and attentive?"

"Yes, madam, oppressively so."

"Then, permit me to inform you that the attentions of Col. Hines are a distinguished honor, even to Miss Brotherton."

"Yet, indeed, dear grandmother, I would fain dispense with the honor."

"Explain your antipathy, if you please, Sybil."

"Why, in the first place, dear grandmother, he is quite an old gentleman, near thirty, is he not?"

"Col. Hines is forty-seven years of age, quite in the noon of life."

"And I, in the morning twilight," said Sybil, sadly.

"Any other objection, Sybil?"

"Then he is short and thick, and has a broad red face, and a bald head, and a big—that is, a large—I mean a stout—in a word, he is a round old gentleman, who gets into a great heat when he dances—indeed, he goes like a bouncing ball."

"Miss Brotherton, I am shocked, I am humiliated, at your language," said the old lady, trying to look severely at her pet. "Now, do me the favor to ring for Broom to remove the tea-equipage."

When the table was cleared and the fire replenished—

"Now, Broom," said Mrs. Brotherton, "bring in the box of books that last arrived from Baltimore, and open it. The box was brought in, and the lid forced off, and the wealth of entertainment displayed, all in handsome bindings.

Old Broom was on his knee at the box, officiating as gentleman usher to the books.

"There, Broom, hand me that book in red—ah! 'The Romance of the Forest.'"

"Oh! Grandmother, let us read that—that must be very interesting."

"Here, my child, take it," said the old lady, forgetting her displeasure. "Hand me those others, Broom—'The Bandit's Bride,' ah ha!" "Oh! Grandmother, that! that! let's read *that* to-night." "Stay my love, let us look further." "You are too excitable," said the old lady, continuing her examination with intense interest. "'The Young Protector,' 'The Royal Captives,' 'Louisa, the Lovely Orphan,' or 'The Cottage on the Moor,' 'The Children of the Abbey.'"

"Indeed! oh, grandmother, that! that! we've heard so much about that—*do* let's read that to-night."

"Very well, then, my dear, lay it by. Here, Broom, take these books up stairs, and put them in the book-case; and then go and tell Katy to bring in half a dozen eggs and a bottle of port, (we will have some mulled wine before we retire to rest, darling," said she in a low voice to Sybil,) and then, Broom, if you and Katy wish, you can come in and listen to the reading." Much pleased, the old man hastened to execute his mission. Now, do not think, gentle reader, that there was any inconsistency between Mrs. Brotherton's pride and her practice of admitting her old domestics to her evening readings. Her people, as she called them, had grown up with her—they were old and tried servants, perfectly faithful and respectful. And she had long observed with what greedy ears they would linger in the room and listen while she read.

Well! old Katy soon brought in her knitting, and old Broom followed her with his cards and wool, and one sat on a low seat in one corner of the fire-place, and the other on a cricket in the opposite corner, quiet, attentive, and pleased. Mrs. Brotherton and Sybil sat before the fire, with a work-stand between them, upon which stood a brightly burning lamp, work-basket, scissors, snuffers, etc. The old lady wiped her spectacles, put them on, opened her book, and commenced reading, amid profound silence, to most attentive and interested auditors. Sybil employed herself with her tambour frame. When Mrs. Brotherton would grow weary of reading aloud, she would pass the book to Sybil, and take up her knotting. Miss Brotherton would then lay aside her work and read for an hour; and in this way they would agreeably relieve each other until it was time to retire to rest. Then old Broom would mull the wine, lay the cloth, and set out a few light sponge cakes. After Mrs. Brotherton and Sybil had partaken of the refreshments, the remainder was carried into the kitchen, for the solace of the old servants. Family prayer concluded the evening, and the little circle separated for the night.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

For the National Era.
NOTES ON ILLINOIS.—No. 5.

BY AN OLD SETTLER.

We now approach an important crisis in the history of slavery in the Northwestern Territory.

The act of Virginia, of October 20th, 1783, ceded all the rights and claims of that State to the Continental Congress, (reserving the fee simple in a tract of land betwixt the Miami and Scioto rivers, to satisfy military claims of the war,) and the Congress accepted the cession and ratified the contract, March 1st, 1784. Illinois had become a slaveholding district under the French Government in 1720—as such, it had passed into possession of the British Government in 1765. It became a conquered province to Virginia in 1778, and, of course, remained a slaveholding country. As such it passed into the possession and government of the United States, under the Confederation.

Messrs. Jefferson of Virginia, Chase of Maryland, and Howell of Rhode Island, were appointed a committee to prepare a plan for the government of the Territory. On the 19th of April, 1784, they made report to the Congress. A majority (Messrs. Jefferson and Chase) were from the South, and both slaveholders, yet their report contained the following provision:

"*That after the year 1800 of the Christian era, there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in any of said States,*" [States to be formed out of the Northwestern Territory,] "*otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been convicted to have been personally guilty.*"

This full-grown "Wilmot Resolution" was from the pen, and expressed the publicly and oft-avowed sentiment, of THOMAS JEFFERSON, afterwards President of the United States!

Votes were then taken by *States*, each State giving one vote, which was previously settled by its own delegation. On the question, "Shall this provision be adopted?" eleven States voted—a majority of the whole number, seven, being necessary to pass an act. Six voted in the affirmative, viz: New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and Pennsylvania. Maryland, Virginia, (Mr. Jefferson dissenting from the vote of his two colleagues,) and South Carolina, voted in the negative. North Carolina was equally divided; and but one delegate from New Jersey voted, by which the vote of that State was defeated. Had his colleague voted, the question would have been carried.

More than two-thirds voted in the affirmative.

The prohibitory clause was stricken out from the plan reported by Mr. Jefferson, on the 19th of April, upon motion of Mr. Speight, of North Carolina. From that day until the 23d, the plan was debated, altered, and finally passed Congress by all the States except South Carolina. The plan made provision to divide the Territory into ten States, by parallels of latitude and meridian lines, beginning at the northwest, and proceeding southwardly, with the following names: Sylvania, Michigonia, Chersonesus, Assenisippia, Metropotamia, Illinois, Saratoga, Washington, Polypotamia, and Pelisipia. What a string of names!

This plan could not be carried out. Not merely this catalogue of names, but the number of States proposed and their boundaries were objectionable.

A resolution had passed Congress in 1780, which fixed the size of the States from 100 to 150 square miles; and the terms of the cession had been adopted by Virginia and Massachusetts, and it required the joint action of those States and the Continental Congress to increase the size and lessen the number of these new States. On the 7th July, 1786, Congress passed a resolution in favor of a division of not less than three nor more than five States, which was assented to by the States interested therein.

On September 30th of the same year, Congress again proceeded to the consideration of an ordinance for the government of the Northwestern Territory, which occupied the attention of that body from time to time until July 13th, 1787, when Congress passed the "*Ordinance for the government of the Territory of the United States northwest of the River Ohio.*" This ordinance laid the foundation of the prosperity of that country, where now five States are organized, one of which in population and wealth is the third in the Union. There is territory to the north of Wisconsin, and west of Lake Superior, equal to about 90,000 square miles, and from which one or more States may yet be formed. It has received the name of *Minne-Soter*.

The most important and valuable feature of the "Ordinance" was the entire exclusion of slavery from the country northwest of the river Ohio, in the 6th article:

"There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in said Territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: *Provided, always*, That any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed, and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service, as aforesaid."

The resolutions of the 23d of April, 1784, providing for and naming ten States, &c., was repealed.

Let it be kept distinctly in view, *that slavery existed in the Northwestern Territory previous to the ordinance of* 1787, and that the States that acted on this question were strictly sovereign and independent; and that this sovereign law of future emancipation, and the prohibition of slavery, even in the Constitutions of future States, were never called in question.

The States that voted for this ordinance, and of course for the suppression and repudiation of slavery, were Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

A majority of the ayes given were from the States south of the Potomac!!! and a majority of the Committee who reported it were from the same quarter.

For the National Era.
THE TWO SHIPS.

BY REV. WILLIAM B. TAPPAN.

"In the year sixteen hundred and twenty, a Dutch ship imported into Virginia the first slaves that were ever seen on the North American continent. In the same year the 'May Flower' brought the Pilgrims to Plymouth."

A vessel on the deeps!
Her stolen freight is human flesh and blood;
Eternal Justice sleeps,—
Else, sure, would flame some attribute of God,
When men make void His law,
And thus with Mercy's Golden Rule wage war.

Insulted billows bear
The pirate keel from old worlds to the new;
To poison the free air
With bondmen's breath, and where bend skies of blue
(For great the work and ill)
The vigorous soil with Slavery's scathe to kill.

Those "chattels," bought and sold,
Those few poor victims, ten score years ago,
Such is the lust of gold—
Are children's children now, in tears and woe.
Freemen, by Freedom's power,
Have made them—they're three millions at this hour!

Three million slaves
To waste o'er cotton and the sugar cane,
Then fill their graves,
And leave Guilt's legacy, a damning stain
On thee, unhappy land!
Which e'en effacing Age immortally shall brand.

A vessel on the deeps!
Her noble freight is human flesh and blood;
No rifled Slave-Coast weeps—
Around her hover airs and smiles of God;—
Peace fans the favoring gales,
And Righteousness is with her as she sails.

In Winter's dreary reign
Of ice and cold, she nears the western world;—
The Northern blasts complain;
The clouds of sleet and snow above her curled
Fling down their wrath—what then?
Her quivering ribs are mighty—they hold MEN!

Men of the pure old stock
Who haste alike from Tyrant and Prelate's ban,
To build upon the rock
A rest for Conscience and a home for Man,
Where Truth and Light
Shall sway a nation by the rule of Right!

Two hundred years have flown;—
The South drinks now that Hollander's deep curse,—
Her cup alone.—
Blessings are dropping like the dew on us;
"By Heaven,"—say heart and lip—
"New England owes thee to that Pilgrim Ship!"

BOSTON, *December*, 1847.

Let us not forget that Eastern men were largely engaged in the traffic which brought woe to the South.—*Ed. Era.*

SELECTIONS.

A FRENCHMAN IN AMERICA.

Translated from the Courrier des Etats Unis, for the Salem Gazette.

When a foreigner lands in America, what strikes him the most is the total deficiency of a police. With the thousand daily little affairs of life, Government takes no concern. Hackney coachmen, &c., extort from travellers at their pleasure, and there is no one to give redress. You must come to America, to know the value of gens d'armes and police, so unworthily calumniated in our skeptical France.

On arriving in an American city, swarms of negroes and of whites dispute who shall carry your baggage, sometimes they fight for it before your eyes, and you are lucky if in the squabble you do not get a hard blow. * * * *

The Americans are the first speculators in the world. They have invented a kind of speculation in slaves, which does honor to their hearts. They are not content with buying the blacks as cheap and selling them as dear as they can; they seek intelligent slaves, and when they are trained for skilful coachmen for instance, they give them some liberty; they let them in the city, and then they bring every month two or three dollars to the strong box of their master. This bargain brings to the master fifteen or twenty per cent.

The defect of order and the absence of police are insupportable to an European, habituated to be always protected by a hidden but vigilant power. In America, every one is obliged to protect himself. In travelling, at the table, at the theatre, "every one for himself," is the motto of the American People. This habit of self-protection, however, is not to be considered egotistical. Little by little, one gets rid of these small prejudices which reign so despotically in Europe, and you are not angry when your neighbor throws you down, eats your dinner, or treads on your toes. These false points of honor have no place in America, and they do not fight for a slight gesture, a look misinterpreted; but there reigns in America a contempt of life of which nothing can give a full idea.

The railroads are so insecure that it is only an equal chance if we shall arrive safely at our journey's end; and then with what boldness do they penetrate into the bosom of cities, in the streets most frequented, stopping at every door to take travellers. There are no gates, nothing to protect the lives of the passengers in the streets.

On great routes there is a pellmell of carriages, of wagons, of foot-passengers, beasts and engines. From time to time we read these words, inscribed upon a post—"*Look out for the Locomotive.*" All precautions are reduced to these few words; and except some stupid ox or imprudent horse who are crushed, accidents are rare, nevertheless, on this immense network of railways!

You travel days, nights, weeks, hundreds, thousands, of miles, always carried by steam. You encounter in your way those lakes, seas, miniature oceans, that defy all bridges; then you quit the railroad for the steamer, the land for the water; again return to the railroad, from stages to steamers, from steamers to stages, and finish by traversing incredible distances.

Excellent and well-commanded as the steamboats are, they present dangers, owing to the rashness and carelessness of the American character; for few days pass without some race between steamboats. These races upon the liquid turf last sometimes entire days, and frequently terminate prematurely in a terrible explosion. The competition between steamboats is not limited to combats of speed between boiler and boiler. Before exposing your life, the rival steamers make you pass through scenes less dangerous, but still very painful. For the same destination, two, three, four steamers present themselves in the lists, and dispute for the passengers. Each of them has its agent, charged to seize upon them, and get them to embark, willing or unwilling. If the travellers allow themselves to take passage complaisantly, the rival steamers are not so facile, and victory, warmly disputed, costs often to the victims an arm, the skirt of a coat, a carpet-bag, lost in the confusion. Meanwhile, there is a great sum to reward the conqueror—fifty sous; for fifty sous (half a dollar) we can travel a day in the floating palaces on the Hudson or on Lake Ontario. Thus competition has its benefits; and if it kills the traveller, if it destroys his clothes, on the other side it spares his purse.

The life of the Americans is one of locomotion and locomotion. Men, women, children, old people, everybody, travels. At the first approach of summer they abandon the cities, and go to seek fresh air upon the sea-shore or in the country. The hotels are emptied and filled without ceasing. In these hotels reigns perfect equality. * * * Every guest must sit down at the public table, and take his place among a hundred or two doomed to eat together. The same equality presides in the division of the apartments. The same price is paid for the best chamber as the worst; that which is situated in the first story, as the third. The first comer takes the best; as to the others, they must content themselves with what they find. There is such a passion for equality, that all the guests are awakened at the same moment. At the unheard-of, unaccountable hour of seven, a frightful Chinese gong roars, resounds, in all the hotels. This is a notice that the breakfast will be served in an hour. At eight, all American breakfasts—fills itself with warm water, buckwheat cakes, and salt butter—then America rushes to its business, for America always can find business, even in travelling. Every man dines at three or four, and until the next morning devotes himself to his wife and children.

The passion for travelling seems contagious; it affects Europeans, even the French, whom business, or a flight from justice, has led to America. It is surprising how we take the habits and the ideas of those with whom we live. The prejudices, the tastes, that we have brought with us from our country disappear, and we feel disturbed when a countryman just landed allows himself sarcastic remarks. Of every foreigner denationalized, the worst is the naturalized Frenchman. He is more susceptible to satire upon America than a native. He takes fire at the least word. He carries farther good or bad customs, especially the bad, peculiar to America, than a native. At first he intends to do this, but afterwards he does it involuntarily.

Every American has a penknife; sometimes another besides. Far from me be the wild fancy of transforming the honest dealers in sugar or cotton to fierce bravoes, disposed to stab with their knives for a word. Americans of their knives make a more pacific use—every one, according to the rank which he occupies in society. Some cannot drink, without cutting the table around which they drink; others, in a higher condition, cut apples, their nails, or pick their teeth with their knives; others cut the pages of a thousand and one pamphlets which circulate on the public routes. * * * * * * *

Two merchants have an important affair to arrange—some great speculation in China, or elsewhere. They meet punctually at a time agreed on; but before entering on business, each of them takes from his pocket two objects indispensable to the conversation, a knife and a splinter of wood. The session is opened. They attack the innocent piece of wood—as every notch falls, a new idea is elicited, and, thanks to the precious bit of wood, the affair is concluded in the best possible manner. The knife is to the American what the whip is to the coachman, the sword to the officer, or the spectacles to the near-sighted.

* * * * * * *

The Frenchman in America does not content himself with two knives—he carries with him an arsenal, and wonders he has lived so long without knives; but if by chance he returns to France, this mania of cutting becomes a real scourge to his friends, and, above all, to their furniture. * *

In travelling, he consumes, of sherry-cobblers, tea, and cakes, three and four times as much as the most thirsty and famished American. He arrives in New York. He is to pass there twenty-four hours. In place of walking and visiting the city, he installs himself in the parlor, in a large chair; his feet as high as his head, he offers to the passengers a charming prospect of the soles of his boots. Broadway, the most beautiful street in New York, is bordered with hotels, and these hotels are filled with travellers, who adopt, without exception, this national and horizontal position, so commodious to them, so agreeable to the eye of spectators. For a stranger, habituated to place his feet in another direction, it is a strange sight. "How do you like New York?" said an American, enthusiastic for his country, to a Parisian just arrived. "What a beautiful city! what splendor! what life! what activity! is not our Broadway equal to your Rue de la Paix? Are you not surprised, delighted?" "Certainly," said the Parisian, "it is the first time in my life I ever walked between two hedges of boot-soles!" Happily for the Parisian, the remark was addressed to an American of America; if it had been made to an American of Orleans or of Montargis, it might have had a tragical termination.

The American women leave whittling to the other sex, but they have also their hobby—it is to wear a green veil. In summer, it is a rampart that defends them from the dust and the heat of the sun; in winter, against the cold, and at all times from the curious glance. What husband, what father, would recognise his wife or daughter under this mask? Thanks to the green veil—the best of cosmetics—it preserves that beauty of complexion for which American ladies are distinguished, and which would fade under the attacks of a cold which is very ungallant, and of a sun which respects nothing.

DEFINITIONS.

LANGUAGE.—A chain to unite men and keep mankind disunited.—A large issue of notes which has often a small basis of gold.

THEATRE.—An homœopathic hospital, where small doses of society are given to cure society.—The chamber wherein bachelors receive curtain-lectures.

MIRROR.—A journal in which Time records his travels.

CHILD.—The ever-renewed hope of the world.—God's problem, waiting man's solution.

MISER.—An amateur pauper.—A lover who is contented with a look.

IGNORANCE.—A serpent which many foster because they suppose it to be harmless.—A dark place, where poor people are allowed to grope about till they hurt themselves or somebody else.

BACHELOR.—A mule who shirks his regular load.

SHOP.—Private interest disguised as public utility.—A prison for himself, built by a man of the materials he deals in.

CHINA.—A hermit among nations.—A living toad embedded in stone.

PAPER.—A receiver of stolen goods.

POLITICS.—A national humming-top, which spins the least when it hums the most.

PRISON.—The grave where State Doctors bury their murdered patients.

NAPOLEON.—A naughty boy who was put in a corner because he wanted the world to play with.

CIVILIZATION.—Mankind's struggle upwards, in which millions are trampled to death, that thousands may mount on their bodies.

METAPHYSICS.—Words to stay the appetite till facts are ready.

DEATH.—A notice served on society for your trial.

TAXES.—Feathers plucked from all birds, to line the nests of a few.

MONK.—A coward who wont fight.

AMERICA.—Young John Bull working with his coat off.

SLEEP.—The only thief who benefits you by robbing you.

FIRE.—The only hard-working servant who is cheerfully admitted as a friend in the drawing-room.

WAR.—Murder to music.

BALL ROOM.—The camp of modern amazons.

TYRANNY.—Knocking people on to their knees for the crime of standing upright.

TOBACCO.—A triple *memento mori*—dust for the nose, ashes for the mouth, and poison for the stomach.

CHARITY.—One whom we delight to follow, but dread to face.

LIFE.—A compulsory journey over a precarious road, on which the more luggage you have, the more lightly you travel.

MARRIAGE.—Love brought to trial.—Going home by daylight after courtship's masquerade.

IRON.—The bones of the giant Civilization.

PAWNBROKER.—The poor man's banker.—A man who holds your coat whilst you fight.

SLAVE.—A human epitaph of human feelings.

FAME.—A glass castle erected by public opinion, for the better observation of its inmates.

CITY.—A human hive without its honey-comb.

SHIP.—The telescope of the world.

MONEY.—The largest slaveholder in the world.

EXPERIENCE.—The scars of our wounds.

WINE.—Bottled fever.—A friend who seldom dies without torturing us with his ghost.

DEBT.—A slice cut of another man's loaf.

COAT.—A check drawn on society by your tailor.

PAUPER.—An animal so like a man as to make us feel uneasy.

PALACE.—A guillotine which cuts off the head of a nation from its body.

IRELAND.—The Actæon of nations, torn to pieces by its own dogs.

SAVAGE.—An individual who goes to war with his enemies, like a heathen, and takes their scalps, instead of going to law with them, like a Christian, and taking their goods.

SOLDIER.—A live target, set up by one nation for another to shoot at.

BEE.—A self-taught botanist, whose works command a ready sale.—*Council of Four.*

MINOR MORALS FOR MARRIED PEOPLE.

"The last word" is the most dangerous of infernal machines. Husband and wife should no more fight to get it than they would struggle for the possession of a lighted bomb-shell.

Keep an Epictetus in your dining room, to read while waiting for the completion of your wife's toilet.

Married people should study each others' weak points, as skaters look out for the weak parts of the ice, in order to keep off them.

Ladies who marry for love should remember that the union of angels with women has been forbidden since the flood.

The wife is the sun of the social system. Unless she attracts, there is nothing to keep heavy bodies, like husbands, from flying off into space.

Wives, be lenient to the marital cigar. The smoke always hides the most disagreeable part of the battle.

The wife who would properly discharge her duties, must never have a soul "above buttons."

The liberties of England have been won by mutual concessions. Let the husband who would acquire the privilege of asking friends to dinner without notice, remember this when his wife hints at a new bonnet. The wife's want is the husband's opportunity.

Notwithstanding the assertions of mathematicians, the marriage ring is a circle which husband and wife have no problem set them of making all square.

Don't trust too much to good temper when you get into an argument. The Indians produce fire by the rubbing of the driest sticks.

Sugar is the substance most universally diffused through all natural products. Let married people take a hint from this provision of nature.
Punch's Pocket Book.

FASHIONABLE PRONUNCIATION.

"But the worst of it all was, Mamma was always taking me up so about my mode of talking; now I didn't sound this word rightly, and then it wasn't considered elegant to pronounce that word in the way I did. I recollect one morning, at breakfast, asking her for another cup of coffee, with rather a broad accent on the word. '*Kaw-fee*, Charlotte,' she replied, 'and pray what may that mean, Miss? I never recollect hearing the term used before; but perhaps you may mean *cof-fee*, for that's the only name I ever heard given to it. Really, your father might just as well have kept his money in his pocket, and never sent you to school at all, for the good it seems to have done you.' 'Why,' I replied, quite innocently, 'I thought that as a-l spelt al, and a-l-l awl, so o-f spelt of, and o-f-f owf.' 'And, I dare say,' she answered, 'g-l-a-s glas, and g-l-a-s-s glarse. But you'll please to think otherwise in future, Miss; and remember that in polite society, when we join a quadrille we *dance*, when we are pleased we *laff* (though smiling's more genteel, my dear,) and when we have a cold we *cof*, and when we take a promenade we *wal-k*; no, I'm wrong, there we do *wawk*, you wawk like other people. So don't let me hear any more of such vulgarisms from you in future. And now, may I have the pleasure of sending you another cup of *cof-fee*?' 'Thank you,' I replied, 'you are very kind!' '*Keyind, keyind!* if you love me, child,' she answered, throwing her hands up; '*keyind*,' unless you wish to split your poor dear mother's ears in two. Pray, do be more attentive to your pronunciation, my dear! for really it sets my teeth quite on edge to hear you.' 'Well, Mamma,' I answered, 'I will try and have more regard for the future.' '*Re*—what is that?' she exclaimed, drawing in her breath, as if in great bodily pain. '*Gard*, did I hear you say, child? Oh! if you would not see your poor dear mother fall senseless at your feet, do, do remember to call it *re-gheard* for the future!'"—*Whom to Marry, and How to get Married*—No. 2.

JUST PUBLISHED, under the direction of the Executive Committee of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, "Letters to Professor Stowe and Dr. Bacon, on God's Real Method with Great Social Wrongs, in which the Bible is vindicated from grossly erroneous interpretations." By Amos A. Phelps.

The numerous friends of the respected author will be glad to know that this important work, in the revision of which he spent the last days of his life, is now published in a large 12mo form, on fine paper, and with handsome type, making a volume of 166 pages. With a view to its extensive circulation, the work has been stereotyped, and is offered for sale at the low price of 37 1-2 cents bound in cloth, or 25 cents in pamphlet form, which can be sent by mail at a charge of 7 1-2 cents for postage.
The usual discount to booksellers.
For sale at the Anti-Slavery Depository, 22 Spruce street, New York, by WILLIAM HARNED,
Dec. 23. Publishing Agent.

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN TEMPERANCE UNION.—This valuable monthly, published at New York, under the editorial care of the Rev. John Marsh, Corresponding Secretary and Supervisor of the Executive Committee, will commence its twelfth volume on the 1st of January. It invites the subscription of gentlemen of reading and reflection in all parts of the country; providing able editorial articles, and, it is hoped, the best selections, and intelligence from all parts of the world, in a style and dress equal to the best publications of the day.
Terms—one dollar, single copy; [illegible] Address, post paid, to the publisher. Direct, "Journal of Temperance Union, New York." Dec. 23.—3t

WM. GUNNISON, *General Commission Merchant*, 101 *Bowly's Wharf, Baltimore, Md.* Dec. 23.—1y

CENTRAL AGENCY *for the sale of Anti-Slavery Publications, No. 22 Spruce street, New York.*—The subscriber, as Agent of the Executive Committee of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, would inform the friends of the cause that he has made arrangements for a supply of the Anti-Slavery Literature of the country, and will be enabled to furnish at wholesale and retail all the publications on this subject, embracing works on American Slavery, whereby he will be enabled to keep on hand, for sale at wholesale and retail, a full supply of the Anti-Slavery literature of the country. There can be no doubt, that if the TRUTH, as it has been set forth by the advocates of emancipation, can be brought before the minds of our fellow-citizens, the most satisfactory results will be produced; and it cannot be doubted that the facilities afforded by the establishment of the Anti-Slavery Depository will be suitably appreciated and improved.
It is not deemed best to comprise in this advertisement a complete catalogue of the Books, Pamphlets, Tracts, Engravings, &c., now on hand. Such a list will probably be prepared and extensively circulated in the Spring. It may, however, be well to say, that among a large assortment of Publications may be found the following:
Memoir of Rev. Charles T. Torrey; Voices of Freedom, by Whittier, last edition; Liberty Minstrel, by G. W. Clark, last edition; Barnes on American Slavery; Bacon on American Slavery; Discussion between Rice and Blanchard; Home, written in prison, by C. T. Torrey; Unconstitutionality of Slavery, by Spooner; Narratives of Lewis and Milton Clarke; Reproof of the American Church; Condensed Bible Argument, by a Virginian; Alvan Stewart's Argument; Wilsona, the Brown Maid of the South; the Chattel Principle; Dick, the Negro Boy, &c.; Liberty Almanac for 1847 and 1848; Anti-Slavery Almanac for 1847; Liberty Almanacs and Tracts, by the thousand or hundred; &c.
It is confidently hoped that no friend of Human Rights, on a visit to New York, will think of leaving the city without supplying himself with a quantity of our Publications. Orders from all parts of the country, accompanied by the cash, specifying how the parcel may be sent, will be promptly attended to, by WILLIAM HARNED,
Jan. 7. Publishing Agent, No. 22, Spruce street.

MEMOIR OF REV. ELIJAH P. LOVEJOY, with an introduction, by John Quincy Adams—the *cheapest* Anti-Slavery book in the United States. A few hundred of this excellent and interesting work are now for sale at the Anti-Slavery Depository, New York. It contains nearly 400 pages of reading matter, neatly put up in paper covers, and is offered at the very low price of *fifteen cents per copy*, or $1.50 per dozen; half bound, with muslin backs, at 25 cents single, or $2 per dozen. At these prices, it cannot be expected that these books will remain long on hand. Those friends who wish to obtain them, for sale or for gratuitous distribution, will please forward their orders without delay, to
WILLIAM HARNED,
July 22. 22 Spruce street, New York.

DOMESTIC SEMINARY, *Clinton, N. Y.*—The subscriber will open, on the 10th day of September, the above institution, in the buildings formerly occupied by him as a seminary for young ladies. Special attention will be paid to the health, habits, and manners of the pupils, as well as to their intellectual and moral improvement. Able teachers will be employed, and a high character maintained in all those respects which render an institution attractive to young ladies, and satisfactory to parents, who desire the best advantages for the highest welfare of their children. Circulars furnished on application.
H. H. KELLOGG,
Sept. 30.—3w Clinton, Oneida county, N. Y.

GREAT BED AND MATTRESS DEPOT, 35 *South Calvert street.*—On hand, and made to order, every quantity and shape of Feather Beds, Bolsters, and Pillows, in any quantity, and of any size, at the lowest prices, and all kinds of Hair, Moss, Husk, Wool, Cotton, and Straw Mattresses and Palliasses. In store, a large assortment of newest patterns Paper Hangings, suitable for parlors, halls, dining rooms, chambers, &c. Paper Hanging done at a moment's notice. Upholstering done in all its branches.
N. B. Prices low, terms cash, and one price asked.
April 29.—tf W. P. SPENCER.

A LOT OF GUNS, *the largest and best assorted in the market.*—Among them are a large number of Chance & Son's make, so celebrated for correct shooting. They can be stripped and examined, and, after a fair trial should they not prove to be as represented, they can be returned. Blunt & Sims's celebrated six-shooters, and every other article in the line, of all prices, and a variety of various patterns. Rifles made to order at the shortest notice, and low for cash.
JAS. H. MERRILL, *Practical Gun Maker*,
April 29.—tf 65 *South street, one door north of Pratt.*

RICHARD MASON, *Fashionable Boot and Shoe Maker*, has permanently located his establishment in the Washington Hall Building, No. 8 South Front street, near Baltimore street, where he will be happy to serve old or new customers, on the most favorable terms, and with despatch.
April 29.

IMPORTANT TO TEACHERS AND SCHOOL COMMITTEES.
New Series of Reading Books, by Joshua Leavitt, author of Leavitt's Easy Lessons.

JOHN P. JEWETT & CO., 23 Cornhill, Bookseller's Row, Boston, have in course of publication one of the most valuable and elegant series of Readers for Common Schools which have ever been offered to the educators of youth. They will be comprised in four books, as follows:
The Primer or First Book, or Little Lessons for Little Learners, containing 72 pages 18mo, elegantly illustrated with numerous designs by Mallory, printed on new type and superior paper, and bound in full cloth, with gilt side, making a serviceable, elegant, and attractive book for a child.
The Second Book, or Leavitt's Easy Lessons, is a work which has been so universally approved by the best teachers in New England for twenty years past, that no further recommendation is needed. This is substantially the same work, with a new Introduction. In its external appearance, however, it is very unlike its predecessors. The present edition is printed from new type, on superior paper, and is elegantly and substantially bound in embossed morocco, with cloth sides and gilt title, and is a volume of 180 pages 18mo.
The Third Reader is of the same general character as the Easy Lessons, but more advanced, intended for older scholars. The sprightly and attractive style and spirit of the Second Book runs through the Third. Great care has been taken, in the selection of pieces, to get such as are calculated to interest the youthful mind, believing that it is next to impossible to teach a child to read well from a heavy, dull, prosy, uninteresting text book. This volume is a 12mo of 240 pages, printed and bound in the best manner.
The Fourth Reader is intended for the higher classes in common schools, and contains pieces of a still higher character than those in the preceding books. The author has scrupulously avoided the introduction into this volume of extracts from *elaborate essays, speeches, dissertations, &c.*, and has aimed to meet the wants of the *scholar in the school room*. He has selected and arranged such pieces as he believes are calculated to arouse and sustain interest, and make good readers; and has rejected many pieces of sterling character, and of great literary merit, deeming them altogether above the comprehension of the mass of scholars in our common schools. This volume will be ready about the 1st September.
The attention of teachers and school committees is particularly called to the *elegant and substantial style* of this series of Readers, to the *paper, printing, and binding*, and also to the *very low price* at which they are offered. Teachers are invited to call and examine, and copies will be given them to sell with small profits.
JOHN P. JEWETT & CO.
Sept. 23.—3m Boston, Mass.

THE CLOTHING ESTABLISHMENT IN BOSTON.
FOR years, the first and only house which has adhered to that popular system of
Low Prices for Gentlemen's Clothing,
is that widely known and universally celebrated Clothing Emporium,
OAK HALL—GEO. W. SIMMONS, *Proprietor.*
The excellence of the plan which he originally designed, and which has been by him so successfully prosecuted, is not only appreciated by the public, but to some extent copied by the Trade—at least so far as the imitation of lofty pretensions can give evidence of their approbation of the only true and perfect system, which consists in offering to buyers every description of
GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHING,
AT THE VERY LOWEST SCALE OF PRICES!
The elegant display of goods at Simmons's Oak Hall, embracing the latest importations from London and Paris, are manufactured under his own personal superintendence and direction, and affords to gentlemen who would save upon old prices, full thirty to forty per cent. in the purchase of a good suit of clothes, well cut and well made—a complete opportunity of selecting from the largest stock every variety of elegant Clothing and Dress Goods now in the United States, and which may be had by citizens and strangers; in addition to a superb assortment of
CHILDREN'S CLOTHING,
At lower rates than can be purchased at any other establishment on the face of the globe, and at prices less than ever before offered, even at Simmons's.
P. S. Wholesale traders, look to this. Thousands of dozens of Coats, Pants, Vests, and furnishing goods, cheap.
☞ Entrance at No. 32 Oak Hall, Nos. 32, 34, 36, and 38, Ann street, near the head of Merchant's Row, Boston.
Nov. 4.—3m

THE LIBERTY ALMANAC FOR 1848, compiled by the Rev. Joshua Leavitt, and published by the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, contains, in addition to the usual calculations, astronomical tables, &c., a great variety of important facts and statistics, bearing directly upon the subject of slavery, not to be found in any other publication, and prepared with special reference to the present position of the question in this country. In the confident expectation of a large demand, the work has been handsomely stereotyped, and printed on good paper; and, to ensure its extensive circulation, the wholesale price has been fixed at the following reduced rates: 250 copies, or upwards, at $30 per thousand; 100 or 200 copies, at $3.50 per hundred; 50 copies for $2; 20 copies for $1.
All orders must be accompanied by the cash, and designate *the mode of conveyance* by which they are to be forwarded. Post office stamps may be sent for fractions of a dollar.
The friends of universal emancipation are earnestly called upon to aid in giving this valuable Anti-Slavery document a circulation commensurate with its merits, and its peculiar adaptation to the present state of things in this country.
For sale, wholesale and retail, at the Office and Depository of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, No. 22 Spruce street, New York, by
WILLIAM HARNED, Publishing Agent.
☞ Anti-Slavery papers will please copy. Oct. 14.

TREES.—*Commercial Garden and Nursery of Parsons & Co., Flushing, near New York.*—This establishment now covers an area of more than seventy acres, and the proprietors are enabled to furnish, on the most reasonable terms, every desirable variety of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Vines, &c. During the past year, their collection has been enriched by many novelties from Europe, which will be found worthy the attention of amateurs. Dealers will be supplied on liberal terms. Catalogues furnished gratis, on application by mail to the proprietors, or *personally* at 10 Pine street, New York. Sept. 16.—3t

IMPROVED LARD OIL.—No. 1 Lard Oil, for Lamps; No. 2, for Woollen and Machinery—a good shipping order. The following letter speaks of its quality:
"I have made full trial of the No. 2 Lard Oil, which I purchased of thee, and am happy to state that I can speak decidedly in its praise. I have used it on wool of different grades, from the common or native to the full-blood merino, in the process of manufacturing cloth, and find it a better article of No. 2 than I have at any time heretofore used. [illegible] find it equally excellent in lamps for shop lights."
For sale by THOMAS EMERY, Lard Oil Manufacturer,
June 24. No. 33 Water street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

J. HALL, *Designer and Engraver, No. 8 Eutaw street, opposite the Eutaw House, Baltimore.*—Drawings of Buildings, Machinery, Specifications for the Patent Office, &c. Seals, Steel Letters, and all kinds of Wood and Copperplate Engraving, executed at the shortest notice. Patterns for Castings made. Brands and Stencils cut to order. *Drawing School.*—Instruction given in the art of Drawing. April 22.

ROBERT JOHNSTON, *Draper and Tailor, Fayette st., first door east of Howard street, Baltimore*, respectfully informs his friends and the public that he has on hand a select assortment of Cloths, Cassimeres, and Vestings, which he will make up to order in a superior manner, and on the most reasonable terms. Nothing will be wanting to secure the best style for those who prefer finishing their own cloth. All work done at this establishment warranted to give satisfaction. April 22.—1y

JOHN JOLLIFFE, *Attorney and Counsellor at Law.* Office on the east side of Main, between Third and Fourth streets, Cincinnati, Ohio. Collections carefully attended to.
Refer to Thomas H. Minor, Dr. G. Bailey, Neff & Brother, T. Kirby, Esq., Blachly & Simpson, C. Donaldson & Co., Cincinnati; J. C. Vaughan, Esq., J. McDowell, Hillsborough, Ohio; A. W. Price, Hon. J. J. McDowell, Hillsborough, Ohio; A. W. Fagin, St. Louis; J. J. Coombs, Gallipolis; N. Barrier, Esq., West Union, Ohio; Dr. A. Brower, Lawrenceburg, Indiana; S. Galloway, Columbus, Ohio; Col. J. Taylor, Newport, Kentucky; Gen. R. Collins, Maysville, Kentucky. Jan. 7.

CHARLES PHILLIPS, *Bellhanger, Locksmith, and Smith in General*, may be found at the old stand, No. 113 Front street, opposite the Stone Tavern, Baltimore. Bells put up in the country at the shortest notice, and on the most approved plan. April 29.—tf

WINDOW SHADES.—GEORGE FAYAUX has removed his Painting Rooms to the southeast corner of South and Baltimore streets, Baltimore, where he will continue to receive orders for painting the fashionable *Transparent Window Shades*, which have had so much preference to any other Blind since their introduction into this country from Europe. In addition to the Window Shades, he will continue the Decoration of Stores and Halls. Signs lettered, Banners and Flags for Military and Fire Companies, &c. He respectfully solicits a share of patronage from those who may be desirous of obtaining any article in his line. We have a stock of Window Shades, of the latest style, from $1 to $25 per pair. April 22.

NO. 37 CHEAPSIDE.—J. D. ARMSTRONG & THORNTON, *Tobacco and Cigar Warehouse.* Tobacco in large and small packages; Cigars in packages of 50, 100, 125, and 250. April 29.—tf

PATENT AGENCY.—All matters connected with the Patent Office, Drawings, Specifications, &c., accurately and promptly prepared and attended to.
Aug. 26. S. A. PEUGH, Washington, D. C.

PLUMBE NATIONAL DAGUERREAN GALLERY AND PHOTOGRAPHERS' FURNISHING DEPOTS; awarded the gold and silver medals, four first premiums, and two highest honors, at the National, the Massachusetts, the New York, and Pennsylvania Exhibitions, respectively, for the most splendid colored Daguerreotypes and best apparatus ever exhibited.
Portraits taken in exquisite style, without regard to weather. Instructions given in the art.
A large assortment of apparatus and stock always on hand, at the lowest cash prices.
New York, 251 Broadway; Philadelphia, 136 Chestnut street; Boston, 75 Court and 58 Hanover streets; Baltimore, 205 Baltimore street; Washington, Pennsylvania avenue; Petersburg, Virginia, Mechanics' Hall; Cincinnati, Fourth and Walnut, and 176 Main street; Saratoga Springs, Broadway; Paris, 127 Vieille Rue du Temple; Liverpool, 32 Church street. Jan. 7.

TYPE AND PRINTERS' MATERIALS.—The subscriber has taken the Type Foundry lately occupied by Messrs. Cockcroft & Overend, No. 26 Gold street, in the city of New York, and will attend to all orders he may be favored with punctually and despatch. All the type manufactured by the subscriber will be hand cast, and of good metal and finish; and he will furnish all kinds of Printers' Materials of the best quality, at the usual prices.
Mr. J. A. T. Overend (late of the firm of Cockcroft & Overend) has been employed to superintend the manufacturing department of the subscriber.
Old type will be received in payment on the usual terms.
Jan. 7. ROBERT TAYLOR.

DENTISTRY.—Dr. Leach, Surgeon and Mechanical Dentist, North Charles street, opposite St. Paul's church, Baltimore, attends to all Dental operations in the best and safest manner, and at very reasonable prices. Having facilities not possessed by any other person in his profession, he is enabled to insert the best Porcelain Teeth at about one-half the usual prices, and in a style which, for appearance, adaptation, or durability, cannot be surpassed. The Letheon administered in Surgical operations, when desired. Extracting Teeth under its influence, 50 cents; without, 25 cts.
N. B.—Persons who have lost all their upper teeth may have a set for from six to eight hours by Dr. L., so as to be worn without clasps or springs, and warranted to answer the desired purpose. Dec. 2.

J. B. WHEATON, *Wholesale and Retail Druggist*, keeps constantly on hand a large and well-selected assortment of drugs and medicines, chemicals, paints, oils, dye stuffs, window glass and putty, lamp glasses, shop furniture, surgical instruments, artists' brushes, pencils, crayons, water colors, &c. Also—a few choice Groceries.
Corner of Broad and High streets, Columbus, Ohio.
Nov. 18.—3t

JUST PUBLISHED.—"Slaveholding Examined in the Light of the Holy Bible, by William Henry Brisbane, a servant of Jesus Christ." For sale, wholesale and retail, at the Depository of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, 22 Spruce street, in muslin, 37 1-2 cents single, $3 per dozen. Paper, 25 cents single, $2.25 per dozen. Orders for Anti-Slavery Publications must be accompanied with the cash, designate how the books are to be sent, and be addressed to
WILLIAM HARNED,
Nov. 11. 22 Spruce street, New York.

WILLIAM BIRNEY, Cincinnati, Ohio, *Attorney at Law, and Commissioner to take Depositions and Acknowledgments of Deeds for the States of Vermont and Connecticut.* Particular attention paid to collections in the Federal and State courts of Ohio, and in the course of Hamilton county. Office on Eighth street, between Main and Sycamore, opposite the Methodist Book concern.

MAULDEN PERINE'S *Earthenware Pottery, corner of Pine and Lexington streets, Baltimore.* All wares delivered in any part of the city, free of cartage. April 29.

CROTON HOTEL.—On strict Temperance principles, No. 142 and 144 Broadway, New York; by
May 6.—tf J. LELAND MOORE.